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THE CONFEDERATE.

A. M. GORMAN & CO., Proprietors.

TERMS:

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Death of A. M. Gorman.

The columns of this paper are shrouded in black, a token of mourning for the departure from this world of one of its Editors. We share the grief, which is felt in this office and community, over this sad event. Our Associate and friend—Mr. ALEXANDER M. GORMAN—was in attendance upon his duties in this office on Friday evening last. He was then complaining, but not apparently seriously indisposed. On Sunday, Erysipelas made its appearance, and on Tuesday night, the 24th inst., about 12 o'clock, he breathed his last.

We are not familiar with the incidents of Mr. Gorman's life, though we have known him for many years. He was born and raised in the city of Raleigh, was the son of Henry and Mary Gorman, and was in his 51st year of age. He was apprenticed to Mr. Joseph Gales, and served his time in the *Register* office, under him. Afterwards he became a member of the Editorial corps, and conducted, usefully and ably, for several years, *the Spirit of the Age*—the organ of the cause of Temperance in the State. Our connection with the Confederate first brought us into close association with him; and for a year past, our business intercourse has been constant and most intimate—affording us a good opportunity to know and appreciate his excellency of character, and his worth. He was a man of most amiable and unexacting disposition; unpretending and inoffensive; but at the same time, of fixed opinions, and firm of purpose. He was well read—a clear thinker, and a good writer. Several of the articles in this journal, which have obtained the widest circulation, were the productions of his pen. He was an ardent patriot, who followed the fortunes of the Confederacy with unfaltering trust; and we believe he was a faithful Christian, who endeavored earnestly to obey the commandments of his Divine Master. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and an active brother of the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He is gone. We believe *to his rest*.—We shall miss an associate whom we had come to cherish; and a companion, whose intercourse was most agreeable; and the country has lost an industrious and worthy citizen, and a sincere and true patriot.

All sort of rumors were in circulation on our streets yesterday, with regard to the situation. The recent news from the North, in connection with Mr. Blair's return to Richmond, furnished grounds for hope that the day of peace was not far distant, and this hope produced a wonderful influence upon our good citizens. Go where we might, we saw the effects of that hope beaming upon the countenances of men, who, amid croakings and murmurings, have ever kept their eyes steadfastly fixed upon the Star of Peace and Independence.

On the other hand, we saw a considerable shaking of heads among the croakers. They "didn't believe a word about there being a prospect for peace; *Mr.* Lincoln wouldn't make peace with Jeff. (not Mr.) Davis; and even, if *Mr.* Lincoln did take it in his head to open negotiations, why, Jeff. Davis would oppose some obstacle," &c. So that there was no earthly chance.

All we have to say, is, let the people trust the President as a constitutional officer, and peace may not be so far off as these *spurious* peace men would make them believe.

GREATEST FRESHET ON RECORD.—The Roanoke river, at the time of our present writing, Thursday morning, January 12th, says the Clarksville *Tobacco Plant*, is swollen to a greater extent than it was ever known to be in the memory of the oldest inhabitants.—The freshet of June, 1862, exceeded all previous ones considerably. The water mark then was particularly and carefully defined on the brick warehouse in this town. The water at daybreak this morning was exactly seven inches higher than in 1862. And this excess is no small increase when the river has spread over the extensive highlands.

The number of slaves to be obtained in each State, as authorized by the act of Congress, approved February 17th, 1864, is as follows:

Virginia	2,250
South Carolina	2,500
Alabama	2,500
Tennessee	500
North Carolina	2,250
Georgia	2,500
Florida	500
Mississippi and East Louisiana	1,500
Total	14,500

NOT TRUE.—The Raleigh *Standard* says that the Senior Editor of the *Observer* "has been heard to say that he has held up the bright side as long as he could." The *Standard* has probably been misinformed. The Senior Editor of the *Observer* never said that, nor anything like it.

Let no one be deceived by this scarcely disguised effort to persuade the Legislature and the people that the cause is regarded as hopeless, and that they might as well make up their minds to submission and subjugation. We do not now believe, and trust in God we never shall have reason to believe, that the cause of our country is hopeless, that there is no bright side to be held up. Should such a time ever come, it will be brought less by the armies of the enemy without than by the croaking and cowardice of men within, who, after helping to bring on the war, and pledging "the last dollar and the last man" to maintain it, have been the first to desert and betray.—*Fayetteville Observer*

WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

VOL. 1. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1865. NO. 42.

A dispatch from Mr. Benjamin, the Secretary of State, which escaped our attention—if it has ever been published here—is creating an interest in England, and much more in the Federal cities. Yankee ship owners, and those who combine with them to effect fraudulent transfers—in order to change the flag, and thereby escape the searching of our cruisers—will begin to look to their pockets. Our national vessels, sailing under due commissions, with proper naval officers and crews, bearing the flag of the Confederate States, are legitimate ships of War—national in their character—and possessed of full national rights. They are ridiculously called pirates; but this is nonsense. And they are no more privateers than pirates. A privateer is a ship belonging to a private citizen, and receives a letter of Marque to capture the ships of the enemy. The object of privateering is to make money. The risk is great and the chances of gain great. But in our case, the chances of gain were entirely destroyed, because our ports were blockaded; and we have been, by foreign governments, prohibited from carrying prizes into neutral ports. We are obliged, therefore, to rely for annoyance to the enemy's commerce, upon government vessels, armed and put to sea for the purpose.

In this matter embarrassing questions arise. There may be neutral goods on the enemy's bottoms; or an enemy's ship—fraudulently transferred and put ostensibly under a foreign flag—may be loaded with Yankee freight. Unless we can hold such, as prizes, until the decision of our Prize Courts on the case, we make nothing by the capture, and run the risk of destroying the property of neutrals, which we scrupulously seek to avoid.

Mr Benjamin therefore says to foreign nations, who are neutrals—"The Confederate Government will not allow an enemy's vessel to escape because part of her cargo belongs to neutrals." He says to neutral merchants—"If you send your goods under the Federal flag, they are liable to seizure with the vessel. As an act of courtesy we have hitherto taken ransom-bonds in such cases; but we do not waive our right to destroy. If neutral ports are open to receive our prizes, until our prize courts have pronounced judgment, your goods will be returned to you; but if not, you must take the risk of losing your goods, if you ship them under the Federal flag. With regard to an enemy's cargo, on a neutral vessel, the Confederate Government will scrupulously observe the principles of the Treaty of Paris of 1856." This is a bold and politic, as well as just and proper attitude, on the part of our Government. It says that goods in transit, by neutral bottoms, are free of all risk. By this, it cuts the Yankee marine down to the water's edge. It thus conciliates the foreign ship-owner, and pays a proper respect to the declaration of the great powers in 1856.

When ships are transferred, by Yankee owners to Englishmen, or Dutch, or others, in order to get from under the "gridiron"—and under the protection of foreign neutral flags—our Government has determined to require the transfer to be *bona fide*, without appearance of collision.

The Yankee flag, on merchant vessels, is hardly seen on the ocean. Almost the whole merchant marine of Yankeedom is transferred by pretended sales; and, in many instances, mortgaged back to their original owners—There are about seventy-five of these under the English flag. Of course, this is a shame and a fraud; and all these are lawful prizes, with all the goods they may have aboard, no matter by whom owned. Now, if we are allowed to carry prizes, when captured, into foreign ports, and have an adjudication on such vessels and cargo, so that the innocent may escape, then justice is done to all. But, if not, why then we must burn both. The Yankees are thus in a deplorable attitude.—They must consent to have neutrals admit us into their ports with our prizes, or they must see themselves dreaded and shunned by all shippers, for no prudent merchant will put his goods on any vessel owned by a Yankee, and transferred since 1861. On the other hand, if neutrals admit us with our prizes, then we shall have a fleet of privateers that will reap a rich harvest from Yankee commerce.

Each day is adding to our strength before the world. The very principles of law are ranging themselves on the side of independence. The seizure of the Florida—and the after chicanery of the Yankee Government—has produced its full measure of contempt.—The people of this Confederacy—if for no other reason than because of the vile iniquities which taint the Federal name since this war began—ought to abhor every idea of a re-union with them. We thank God to be able to rejoice in the hope that such re-union is impossible. We hear glorious tidings that a powerful reaction is taking place in Georgia. Soon, the ablest of her orators will appear before her people, to denounce the idea; and the discussion will be all on one side. We look soon to see a glorious restoration of unanimity.

It was Mr. Orr, of Mississippi, and not of South Carolina, that made the "personal explanation" in Congress in regard to the Sentinel's article on "treason."

Let every one who feels disposed to give up the good cause, read the following noble and patriotic sentiment, and go and take new resolve to duty:

(From the Montgomery Advertiser.)

Christmas Eve on the Front.

TRENCHES BEFORE PETERSBURG,
Christmas Eve, 1864

Everywhere throughout Christendom, the people are to-night rejoicing and making preparation for the morrow, "the happiest day of all the year." Little children go to bed dreaming of the gifts of good St. Nicholes; maidens in soft whispered words breathe "good night" to their lovers; parents think of the joyous re-union around the family fireside of many who have been long absent, and the toil worn man of business forgets for the time the counting house or his office. For it is a time of feasting, a time for greeting friends, a time for making good wishes and giving presents. For the soldier none of these things exist, and of all Christian men, he alone looks for to-morrow with no pleasing anticipation. For him no Christmas dinner will be spread, no merry voices of children, no smile of loving wife, no welcome gathering of absent friends; but alone he sits by his camp fire, listens to the far off booming of the heavy guns at Dutch Gap, that comes floating over the hills and valleys; to the sharp crack of the rifle, that has probably relieved some comrade of duty forever, and thinks sadly of home, and

The past floats up before him
And the lost come stealing back.

Yet the true and loyal man feels in his heart that he is doing his duty, and that, although he may have no merry Christmas himself, yet is confident he is securing for his country, for his children, for posterity, many a joyous, free and happy Christmas holiday. At such an hour, with the stars shining as brightly and as gloriously beautiful as on that evening when the wise men of the East saw His star in the heavens, and the angels sung "Peace on earth and good will to man," the Southern soldier dreams not of peace, thinks not of feasting, but memory calls to life the many brave comrades who will answer to roll call nevermore, of the cries of the widow and fatherless, and of the foe who still thirst for our lives, our homes and our freedom. If he prays at all, it cannot be for peace, it must be that God will avenge him on those who have caused all this misery.—No man can doubt that a violation of a great fundamental law always brings its own punishment. The Yankee may escape for a time, and may think himself not only above all constitutional and international law, but also the unchangeable laws of the wise. Nemesis, though slow, is always certain, and as the ancients said, "walks with wooden in her shoes," that she may come silently and surely. Schoolboy reading comes to my mind, and the dying prophesy of Cleonice.

'Tu cele justitiam teque atque aloismanet ultor'

is not forgotten. "Cherish justice" should be the motto of all. If any attempt to wrong you, resist with all your might, for rights that do not justify resistance, whosoever and by whomsoever assailed, are but mockery and laughter, and if you fall 'tis a glorious thing to know—*"teque, tque aliosmanet ultor,"* for you and all others an avenger remains.

At such an hour too, as this, the soldier can look back on the brief but glorious history of his country. Four years ago the Confederate States, were but provinces of the Yankee Government, equals in name, but vassals and slaves in reality of a hated despotism. They had no past, they could look forward to no future. To-day, they stand before the world as a nation of heroes, and although foreign nations through either ignorance or timidity refuse to acknowledge them, yet impartial history will make their names as immortal, as if they were written on yonder vault of heaven, of letters of gold, between Orion and the Pleadides! Thank God we have made a name for ourselves! An army may be defeated, a portion of our territory may be overrun, private property may be destroyed; but so long as the people remain true to themselves, nothing can stop the onward march of the Confederates to freedom, to greatness and to glory. Sickly sentimentalism is the habit of weeping over the fate of Poland, and shedding tears over the unhappy "Exiles of Erin," but sound philosophy teaches that no nation can be subjugated, except by a highborn and better type of civilization. Poland is a happier country under the Czar of Russia than with Stanislaus for her King, and turbulent Nobles for his councellors. Ireland is richer happier, freer to-day under Victoria, than she ever would have been under Phelim O'Neal, or the Earl of Tyrone. Are the Yankees a nobler race than we? Is their civilization, that strange compound of fidelity, radicalism and miscegination better and truer than ours? Shame upon the dastard who would for a moment admit such a slander on his name and race.

Michelet, the French historian, in that memorable book "L'Amour" several years ago used the following language—"mark this well—The life of Europe is the life of the world, if it dies, the world dies. America flooded by an emigrant population at war with Catholic civilization is fast lapsing into barbarism." I quote from memory. They were prophetic words, not, it is true when applied to us, but to what a European called America, the Northern States. Look at them well. Are the olden time? Their liberties have been thrown at the feet of Abraham Lincoln faster than he could pick them up. The old safeguards of common law have been set aside, brute force is the only measure of right; insolence towards all foreign nations has taken the place of the courtesies of civilization, and their war policy resembles that of Alaric, and his Northern horde. But there was life in America that Michelet knew not of, brave, strong, young life, that promised many days of usefulness and glory. This war has called it, not into being, but before the world, and the serpents will strive in vain to crush the infant Hercules. And now from my camp fire, with my brave comrades sleeping around, with the clear starry sky overarching both friend and foe, I bid this young nation, a merry christmas, and without one fear for the future, though dark clouds may threaten and the timid build back, spread her sails, and promptly, triumphantly ride the storm. Peace, freedom, glory, happiness are before her; degradation, slavery, misery, behind. Brave men are at the helm, and onward will be her prosperous course. Once more, merry christmas to the Confederate States, and ere another comes, may peace spread her wings over a free and independent people.

MUSCOGEE.

The Gold Market.

The decline in gold has been very rapid within the past four days. On Thursday, the brokers refused to buy at *fifty*, and a number of the hoarders of specie were upon the street, anxious to sell. Yesterday, gold was very dull at forty-seven and eight. In the afternoon, several small sums were sold at the latter price, though the quotation, at a later hour, had a downward tendency.

Several causes have combined to bring about this effect:—the strenuous measures recommended by Mr. Trenholm, Secretary of the Treasury, to Congress; the decided action of that body in determining, by a vote of *forty-three* yeas, to *thirty-one* nays, to seize all the cotton and tobacco in the Confederacy, on Government account; and the closing of the port of Wilmington.

The scheme of finance now determined upon, and likely to be carried into effect, may be comprehensively stated thus:—The cotton and tobacco of the country, having been made the property of the Government, the Secretary of the Treasury will proceed, under authority of Congress, to borrow specie, giving cotton and tobacco as security. This specie will be speedily applied to the redemption of a large portion of the Confederate notes now afloat at a moderate discount. No more notes to be issued by the Department; but the incoming currency to be used for Government expenditure or cancelled. The cotton and tobacco seized will be paid for in Confederate money at the market rates (gold being the basis), at the rate of discount fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury in the redemption of the currency. An effort will be made to reduce the volume of the currency to a certain amount, and, if possible, to prevent its increase. This course of policy, although not formally entered upon, has, nevertheless, already been somewhat effective.

The fall of Fort Fisher, and the subsequent closing of the port of Wilmington, though deemed disastrous in a military point of view, has necessarily diminished the value of gold by lessening the demand. The public are not aware of the vast amount of influence exercised over the gold market by the operations of the blockade-running at Wilmington. From *twenty thousand to one hundred thousand dollars* in gold were required to meet the weekly demands of the buyers, and nearly all the gold drawn from the market flowed out through that channel. On Monday morning last, one thousand dollars in gold were sold at sixty-two and a half in Confederate money for one in specie. Two hours afterward came the news of the fall of Fort Fisher. Immediately gold rose to seventy-one, and for several days continued to advance, through the combined influence of the brokers, till it reached *seventy-six*; but here it stopped, and has since had a steady downward tendency.

So far, then, as the monetary affairs of the Confederacy are concerned, our prospects are brighter than for many days past; and should our currency continue to improve under the wholesome treatment now advised and in contemplation, our prospects in other points of view cannot grow worse.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

TO MY MOTHER.

Oh, wild is the tempest and dark is the night,
But soon will the day break be dawning;
Then the friends of yore
Shall blossom once more,
And we'll all meet again in the morning!

Art thou doomed in a far distant region to roam,
To meet the cold gaze of the stranger;
Do'st thou yearn for the smiles of the loved ones at home,
While thou pray'st God to shield them from danger?
Ah! the night of the waters may shadow my form
Yet soon will the daybreak be dawning;
And thou'lt mingle once more
With the loved ones on shore,
For we'll all meet again in the morning.

Do'st thou miss the sweet voice of a fond loving son,
Whose music brought balm to thy sorrow?
Did'st thou see him decline in the victory he won,
Nor fell one bright hope for the morrow?
Oh, cheer up, dear mother! the night may be dark,
Yet soon will the daybreak be dawning;
Of all ties bereft,
One hope is still left,
We'll all meet again in the morning.

Oh, servant of Christ! too heavy the cross—
Has thy trust in the Master been shaken?
In doubt and in darkness thy faith hath been lost,
And thou criest, "My God, I'm forsaken;".
But, cheer up, dear mother! the night cannot last,
And soon will the daybreak be dawning;
Then the trials of earth
We have borne from our birth,
Will all be made right in the morning.

THE ROOT OF THE EVIL.—It is stated that there are one hundred thousand absentees from the armies of the Confederate States. In this Department we are credibly informed, says the Charleston *Mercury*, there is a single corps of twenty seven thousand on the rolls, which does does not turn out seven thousand effective men. These facts support the statement of President Davis, made in his Macon speech, upon his return from a review of the sullen Army of the West after his removal of General Johnston, the bloody repulses of Hood, and the fall of Atlanta. Why is it that men are not in the ranks and at the front? Will any one say that the people of the Confederate States are not patriotic? History tells of no struggle for independence in which more general and heroic devotion was ever displayed.—Our people have made greats exertions in behalf of a great cause. It is the people of these States which over and over have lifted out of the perils ensuing from incompetent mal-administration the affairs of the country. It is the incorrigible intermeddling, mischievous dictation, malignant prejudices and petty partisanship which make sacrifices apparently endless and useless. It is these things which weigh like a pall upon the heart of the country. It is these things which infuse inefficiency everywhere, and inspire selfishness and indifference. It is these things which are destroying us, and which must be eradicated by the action of Congress.—*Selma Dispatch.*

Latest News from the North.

We have Northern papers of the 18th inst., from which we get the following summary of news.

THE FALL OF FORT FISHER.

The Northern papers have full accounts of the fall of Fort Fisher. The following is Admiral Porter's official account of the affair:

U S FLAGSHIP MALVERN,
Off Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865

Sir—I have the honour to inform you that we have possession of Fort Fisher, and the fall of the surrounding works will soon follow.

As I informed you in my last, we had commenced operations with the iron vessels, which bombarded while we landed the troops. On the 14th, I ordered all the vessels carrying eleven-inch guns to bombard with the ironsides, the Brooklyn taking the lead. By sunset the fort was reduced to a pulp. Every gun was silenced by being injured or covered with earth so that they would not work.

On the 15th General Terry and myself arranged for the assault, and I ordered 1400 sailors and marines to participate. At daylight the iron vessels, the Brooklyn and eleven inch gunboats, commenced battering the work, while the troops made a lodgment within one hundred and fifty yards of the fort. At 10 o'clock all the vessels stranded in and took their stations, opening a heavy fire, which was kept up until 3, P. M., when the signal was made to assault, the soldiers taking the land side and the sailors the sea face, the ships changing but not stopping their fire to the other works. The rebels met us with a courage worthy of a better cause, and fought desperately. About thirty of the sailors and officers succeeded in getting to the top of the parapet amidst a murderous fire of grape and canister and musketry. They had planted the flag there, but were swept away in a moment. Others tried to get up the steep *pan coupee*. The marines could have cleared the parapet by keeping up a steady fire, but they failed to do so, and the sailors were repulsed. Many a gallant fellow fell trying to emulate their brothers in arms who were fighting to obtain an entrance on the northeast angle, as it appears on our chart.

The enemy mistook the seamen's attack for the main body of troops, and offered a most vigorous resistance there, but I witnessed it all and think the marines could have made the assault successful.

In the meantime our gallant soldiers had gained a foothold on the northwest corner of the fort, fighting like lions and contesting every inch of ground. The Ironsides and Monitors kept throwing their shells into the traverse not occupied by our men, but occupied by the rebels. In this way our troops fought from traverse to traverse, from 3 o'clock in the afternoon until 10 o'clock at night, when the joyful tidings were signalled to the fleet. We stopped our firing and gave them three of the heartiest cheers I ever heard.

It has been the most terrific struggle I ever saw with very much hard labor.

The troops have covered themselves with glory, and General Terry is my *beau ideal* of a soldier and a general. Our operations have been most harmonious, and I think the General will do the navy the credit to say that this time at least we substantially injured the forts as a defensive work.

General Terry had only a few more troops than we had on the last occasion, when the enemy had only one hundred and fifty men in the works. This time the works were fully manned, and contained about eight hundred men at the time of the assault.

It is a matter of great regret to me to see my gallant officers and men so cut up, but I was unwilling to let the troops undertake the capture of the works without the navy's sharing with them the peril all were anxious to undergo, and we should have had the honor of meeting our brothers in arms in the works had the sailors been properly supported.—We have lost about two hundred men in killed and wounded, and amongst them some gallant officers.

I regret to announce the death of Lieut. S. W. Preston and Lieut. R. H. Porter.—They were both captured in the attack on Fort Sumter, and died together in endeavoring to pull down the flag that has so long flaunted in our faces. Lieut. R. H. Lamsin was severely wounded. He was lately associated with Lieut. Preston in his perilous adventure with the powder boat. Lieutenant George M. Bache and a number of others were wounded, the former not dangerously.

The assault only took place a few hours ago, and I am unable to inform you of our casualties. They are quite severe from the assault, but we had no casualties from the enemy's cannon.

Knowing the importance of the department receiving news from Fort Fisher, I have written these few hurried lines. No one can conceive what the army and navy have gone through to achieve this victory, which should have been ours on Christmas day, without the loss of a dozen men.

This has been a day of terrific struggle, and not surpassed by any of the events of the war. We are all worn out nearly, and you must excuse this brief and unsatisfactory account. I will write fully by the Santiago de Cuba, which goes North to-morrow to carry the wounded.

There is not a spot of earth about the fort that has not been torn up by our shells. I do not know yet the number of killed and wounded by our fire; but one fifteen inch shell alone pierced a bombproof, killing sixteen and wounding severely twenty-five others.

Besides the men in Fort Fisher there were about five hundred in the upper forts, and a relief of about fifteen hundred brought down by the steamers this morning. So far, I believe, we have only captured the garrison of Fort Fisher. I don't suppose there ever was a work subjected to such a terrific bombardment, or where the appearance of a fort was more altered.

I presume we are in possession of all the forts, as Fort Fisher commands them all. It is so late now, that I can learn nothing more until morning.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed,) DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear Admiral.

THE MILITARY ASSAULT.

Acting Master's Mate S. W. Kempton, of the Santiago, was sent on shore in charge of a boat placed at the service of General Terry, and being invited by one of the Staff to join them in the assault, actually entered the fort with General Curtis, acting as his Aide. He represents that the assaulting party advanced while the garrison were repeling the naval assault, and had succeeded—by suddenly capturing the guard of thirty men at the sally-port, manning two howitzers loaded with grape, and shooting down and driving back the sharp-shooters on the ramparts—in gaining an entrance and a footing on three of the mounds before the general attention of the garrison was directed to them. The gallant fellows engaged in this bold and hazardous work were the 142 New York—the same men who snatched the flag from the ramparts under Butler, and have now secured the fort itself. Their approaches were conducted scientifically, and they each armed with "musketoons," swept down their opponents as they advanced, who, having to stop to load, were virtually disarmed.

Their supports rushed on as soon as the flag was raised, and then commenced one of the severest contests that the war has furnished for the possession of a fort. It appeared to have been constructed especially for such a contest as was now progressing, and each of the seventeen mounds were successively fought for and struggled over with desperate perseverance and bravery, both by the assaulting party and the garrison. Mound after mound was captured, until nine of the seventeen were in our possession, at 9 o'clock at night, when General Curtis, who led the assaulting party, determined to make one more charge on the enemy, and if that failed, to hold on to the half that was in his possession until the morning. Just as he was about to make the charge, a white flag was raised by the garrison, and possession given of the entire work. The prisoners were at once placed in the bomb-proofs and kept under guard until this morning, when they were marched out and numbered, with those who escaped and were subsequently recaptured, over 1800 privates and one hundred officers, including Major General Whiting, the commander of all the works on the coast, and Brigadier General Lamb, the commander of Fort Fisher, both of whom are wounded, the latter, it is thought, mortally.

The loss of the army in this assault and the subsequent contest for the possession of the work is 750 in killed and wounded. The gallant General Curtis, who accompanied Gen. Butler, but who disagreed with him in the opinion that the fort could not be taken, led the assault, and has a painful wound over the eye.

The number of guns captured in the fort and the adjacent works, including the batteries on Zeke's Island and the Mound, is 72.—They were all in good condition, none of them being spiked, though 14 of the 17 on the north front were dismounted. The variety of guns is remarkable, embracing all the most famed varieties of English manufacture, including a 100 pounder Armstrong gun, mounted on a solid mahogany carriage.

When it is remembered that the assault was commenced at three o'clock in the afternoon, and that the full possession of the fort was not obtained until nine o'clock in the evening—a period of six hours—some idea of the fierceness of the hand-to-hand encounter may be imagined. They fought as men never before fought. Shot and shell from the Mound and the water batteries were pouring into the side of the fort that they had obtained possession of, and they fought with a garrison of two thousand men familiar with every nook and corner of this vast work. The fleet could do nothing to assist them; and the rise and fall of their colors, with the advance or retiring of the reports of musket firing, were viewed with intense interest.

The rebels having been driven from one mound to another, finally surrendered, at half-past nine o'clock, which was the time of the first cheer we heard from the gallant victors.

AN AWFUL EXPLOSION.

Whilst we were looking at Fort Fisher under the Federal flag, and rejoicing over its downfall, a tremendous explosion took place in its very centre, sounding louder than the boom of a fifteen inch gun. A volume of smoke and sand rose fifty feet in the air, enveloping and hiding from view the whole of this immense work for four or five minutes.—It was at once apparent that the magazine had exploded, and that it must have been accompanied with great loss of life. We soon after learned that the destruction of life was not less than two hundred, including many sailors from the fleet, who had not returned to their ships. It was occasioned by the carelessness of some of the colored troops in carrying candles into the magazine.—A large quantity of corn meal had been found stored in a magazine, which the colored soldiers had freely used for their breakfasts, not knowing that it also contained a ton or more of powder, underneath the meal. The exact manner in which the fire was communicated cannot, of course, be known, but it is presumed that there was some loose powder on the floor, into which a spark fell. It was a terrible event, so soon following our great victory. I have heard the names of some regiments that are said to have suffered most, but for fear that my intelligence may not be reliable, it were, perhaps, better not to mention them.

Various rumors were afloat with regard to this terrible catastrophe, some attributing it to the work of a torpedo; but on enquiring, I learn that it was undoubtedly the result of carelessness, or rather the lack of knowledge of the presence of powder.

RESIGNATION OF JAMES A. SEDDON, SECRETARY OF WAR.—We are enabled to state positively that Mr. Seddon, Secretary of War, has resigned his position in President Davis' Cabinet. If any nomination has been made of his successor, it has not yet been acted on.—*Richmond Examiner.*

There are many other rumors brought by passengers from Richmond, but not yet sufficiently reliable for publication.

BLOCKADE RUNNING.—On the night of the capture of Fort Fisher, the steamer Owl, commanded by Capt. John Maffitt, with some other steamers, ran into the old inlet and sent a pilot up to see what was the state of affairs. On learning that Fisher had fallen, the ships put to sea again, hoping to get in at Charleston, we suppose.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

THE CONFEDERATE.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at THREE DOLLARS per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1865.

No thinking man, who will cast his eyes attentively over the whole field of passing events, can fail to perceive that we have at length arrived at a crisis in our affairs. A point of time has come from which we are about to take a new departure; either to conduct this war, in which we are engaged, with renewed vigor and energy, with the unconquered determination to achieve the *independence* of the southern republics, *paramount* to the desire for *peace*, and all other considerations whatsoever; or, with the longing for peace and ease so dangerously developed, as to overshadow all the aims and objects with which we set out in the beginning of this struggle.

Events are fearfully rapid, in their quick succession, in all revolutions; but in the very acme of the fierce struggles which accompany these upheavings of a great nation, they follow one another with such startling rapidity that the wisdom of to-day, becomes the folly of to-morrow, and men growing bewildered are tempted, either to fold their hands, and yield themselves entirely to the power of the prevailing current, or to indulge in rash resolves and intemperate action, to relieve themselves from their state of painful uncertainty.

It is foolish—it is worse than foolish—it is *criminal*, at such a time as this, to recur to the past history of our revolution for the purpose of indulging in crimination or recrimination, or of gratifying personal spite or political animosity; we have no time for these now; we must meet the crisis that is upon us with the organization we now have, however defective it may be, and however distasteful to individuals; it is madness and *treason* to disorganized our only available force, when the fierce shock of battle has already begun; grievances must be redressed, and abuses corrected after the immediate necessity that is upon us is past. But *it is wisdom*, to recur to the past, when the object in view is, to ascertain what *were* the opinions which all entertained, and the views which we all embraced, when the minds of most of us were not so much clouded by our passions and our fears, nor our actions so much influenced by our past and present sufferings, and the whirl of passing events, as they necessarily are at the present time. *It is wisdom* to, look back into our past, to see if we cannot discover some initial point of time, when there were *some* general principles upon which *all* were agreed, from which *none* can dissent,—which, at the inception of this struggle infused such a spirit of resistance into our people, as made them proof against the blandishments of political tricksters, and kindled such a fire of patriotism in their hearts, as made, the measure of their bounty to the Government, the extent of their possessions, and the onset of our soldiers in battle, like the thunder-bolt of a God. Especially is it wise, to recur to these principles, when we now find in North Carolina, that our counsels are divided, our aims antagonistic the one to the other, and our intellectual strength, and physical resources wasted, in intestine dissensions, in which victory is without glory and defeat without consolation.

When this State first decided to throw herself into the conflict, which is now devastating this goodly land, all men were agreed in two things: we had differed, and widely differed, as to the reasons *why* we should leave the old Union; we had differed in our judgment, upon the States that preceded us in their action; we had differed as to the time when we ought to move, and as to the manner in which the severance was to be effected—but all men in North Carolina, at the time when we *did* act, were agreed, that *now*, at last, the hour had come when it was *our duly* to *separate* from the Northern States: and that this severance, then effected, was *final*, and that it ought to be *eternal*. It is a divergence from these two simple doctrines—it is a departure from the idea of the *permanency* of the dissolution of the bonds which united us in the old government, "which some professing, have erred from the faith"—that is now retarding our success, and damaging our cause, more than the army of Sherman, or the iron clads of Porter. It is useless to deny that there is a party and a growing party in our midst, that is willing to accept less than *independance* at the hands of the United States, as the price of peace. A reconstruction of the old union is shamelessly proposed by some of our presses, and the hook is so temptingly baited with the prospect of immediate peace, that men, suffering as we are, from the many and monstrous evils of a long and bloody war, can scarcely refrain from swallowing it. The greater the crime, the more awful the responsibility of those who entertain and encourage such views.

It is not our purpose here to urge, the unnumbered ills that lurk within any, even the most promising proposition for a reconstruction with the Northern States. *Vae victis*, has become a proverb among nations, from the time that the haughty Bremus cast his weighty sword into the trembling scale at Rome. But we say to all who dream, or think, or hint, or speak of reconstruction with the dominions of Abraham Lincoln, as desirable, or even possible, under any circumstances. You did not think so *once*. Time was, on the verge of this awful struggle, in which we are engaged, when you thought and said, with us, that the separation was *final*, and must be *eternal*. If you were mistaken them,—with all the horrid consequences of your mistake full before you—how can we trust you now? A mistake at such a time is not an error, it is a *crime*. Give us back our dead. Gather the bleaching bones that lie scattered from Pennsylvania to Texas, knit them together into the manly forms they once made up, and infuse upon them the glorious glow of manly strength and youth they once sustained. Strip away the trapping of woe that envelop the fireside of every household in the land, and make the orphan's and widow's heart to sing for joy. Rebuild the happy homesteads, throughout this desolated land, where cluster all the happy memories and blooming hopes that hung around our boyish days. Cover with springing grass and laughing corn the naked fields, whose solitary garment now, is but the glorious gloom that hangs around the hillocks where our heroes sleep. Give us—what *can* you give us, that will compensate for the carking cares, the fierce and fiery anguish, the bitter brooding gloom, that have withered many a human heart to ashes, since your *last mistake!* With these gifts extended in the one hand, then may *you* perhaps dare to offer us with the other, a peace, which must be purchased by a continued association, with a race, whose very name has become a by word and a reproach among nations.

What cause existed at the beginning of this war, to justify us in separating from the Northern States, which does not exist in tenfold force now, to impel us to continue this separation? How many causes, for a separate independance, has the fiery furnace of the struggle developed, which did not exist, when it begun? Surely, there is *some* truth in our theory of popular governments: Surely reason has not fled to brutish beasts. Surely the hopes of the world, founded upon the idea that the people are capable of self government; which in this new world we have cherished for so many years, does not rest upon some fatal mistake in the estimate of human nature. We hope, we trust, nay we believe, that the people of this great State, though wrung with suffering, though depressed by reverses—though oppressed by the hardships which all wars drag in their train, cannot be persuaded, to accept a reconstruction of the old union, or of any new one, as the cure for all their ills. We trust to them to recognize any such preposition, no matter in what disguise they meet it; whether as a direct proposition, or in the guise of separate State action to procure peace, or in the more plausible, though not less dangerous shape, of the call of a Convention of this State or of all the States in order that the popular voice may be heard in this emergency of our affairs. Surely *in vain* the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

It requires no courage to be braveup on paper. Defiance is easy when distant dangers threaten us. It demands no fortitude to bear the ills that fall to the lot of others. When danger and suffering are at our own doors, the time comes, that truly tests what stuff men are made of. We never escape dangers by shutting our eyes to their existence, or endeavoring to shirk them; it is the part of brave men as well as of wise ones, to acknowledge their existence, to look them firmly in the face, to estimate calmly their extent, to profoundly consider the power and extent of our means of resistance and then decide upon a course of action. It is therefore the part of wisdom as well as of manliness, to admit boldly and unequivocally, that a time of great trial appears to have arrived in the history of this Confederacy; a time of peculiar trial, to the nerve and endurance of *this State*, seems to be near at hand. Fort Fisher has fallen; there can be little doubt that additional Yankee forces are landed at Confederate Point, and even now the attack upon Wilmington may be in progress Sherman, with a powerful and well disciplined army, has marched through the whole extent of Georgia, has occupied Savannah, and having crossed the South Carolina line, with an army hitherto successful, and probably reinforced, he threatens Augusta, Charleston and Branchville, and has not heretofore more fully developed his plans, only because the elements and the season retard his movements. The spirit of Georgia seems broken, the arts of Sherman seem to be doing their work in demoralizing her people. We have no assurance, that sufficient forces are in South Carolina, or can be congregated there, for the purpose of repelling the onslaught of Sherman's hosts.

In another part of the military map, we find that Thomas has driven Hood with his army out of Tennessee—under the most favorable circumstances, we cannot believe that army is in so efficient a condition as it was, before Hood's advance upon Nashville. It is certainly unable to entirely control the movements of Thomas. And yet again around Richmond we find our great General Lee, with an army full, strong, efficient and hitherto unconquered, restrained nevertheless, by the confronting army of Grant. It is true that Grant's army is not what it was when he set out to take Richmond. it is, comparatively, but the skeleton of what it was, and is powerless at present for active offensive operations. But still it is strong enough, in the present aspect of affairs, to influence Lee's movements, and to a certain or rather uncertain extent control his action. We have thrown no lights into the picture; we have surveyed the military condition of the country with the desire and the intention of presenting it in the most sombre aspect it can assume to the most despondent and fearful of our people.

Now no person will insist that at such a time we should do *nothing*. Whether we intend to resist to the death, or to submit and sue for reconstruction, it is wholesale *murder* to leave our troops, who are in dangerous positions, exposed to the hardships of the field, and all the cruel vicissitudes of war, *and do nothing*. Two, and but two, courses of action are open to us. We must either take counsel of our honor and our courage, brace ourselves up to the conflict, and strain every nerve, to bring into action all our remaining strength and vigor to meet the great emergency; or we must take counsel of our fears and individual selfishness, and make up our minds to *submit*, and accept the best terms that Abraham Lincoln, in his clemency, will extend to us. These propositions may be put into various disguises, and men may deceive themselves, and deceive others, by pretending to have found some middle way, but all plans proposed from any quarter, will, when reduced to their first elements, resolve themselves into one of these two. We have *no choice*—we must adopt and pursue one of these paths or the other, for non-action is the adoption of the latter.

The Confederacy is not lost—our cause is not desperate—and nothing can make it so, for many a year to come, but the dispiriting and demoralization of the people of the Confederacy, which those who style themselves *par excellence* peace men, are setting out to effect by their various projects; and of a truth they are *peace men*, but the peace which they would accomplish, would be the peace of *death*. But if we were of opinion, that we were in so terrible a position, that nothing was left us but the *prospect* of subjugation if the war continued, or a *certainty* of it, by submitting now, in the shape of a proposition, for "a reconciliation with the North under the constitution of our fathers," we would prefer compulsory to voluntary degradation. We would advise to fight on—to struggle on—to endure yet more—to beat the gates of Heaven with storms of prayer, and to abate not one jot or tittle of life or hope till death's pale flag flaunted on the ramparts; and we should so act, because we could not cease to hope, that amid the manifold changes and chances of this mortal life, there must yet be some success in store for so just and holy a cause as ours is; because we felt that man's extremity was God's opportunity; because, if we must fall at last, without any act of submission on our own part, we should yet keep the "whiteness of our souls," and preserve our national and personal honor unwounded; and with all this, have no greater degradation to submit to in the end, than we would sustain now by an ignominous proposition to reconstruct.

Unfortunately for the success of our cause there are men in North Carolina who differ from us. Some—God help them—indicate it by insane and empty bawlings for peace, without designating any plan by which they propose to to achieve it. Some by propositions, for submitting to the people the question, as to whether they desire to assemble in Convention or not. Some by advocating the call of a separate State Convention. Some by suggesting a State Convention of limited powers, preparatory to calling a general Convention of all the Confederate States; but all, if they will search their hearts, will find themselves actuated by the same motives, which, according to the *Standard* newspaper, Mr. Hanes of Davidson has recently, upon the floor of our House of Commons, so "boldly and unequivocally" avowed. He (still quoting the *Standard's* authority) "favored a "reconciliation with the people if the North, "under the Constitution of our fathers, as "the alternative to be preferred to subjugation, which seemed to him to be inevitable "if the war should be continued, as he took it "for granted it would be, by the Federal government." Barely pausing to suggest, that it was possible to accomplish thus much, without any war at all, and with no greater dishonor, than must at last fall upon us for accepting it now, let us gravely consider the condition in which we would be placed after a peace, based upon such terms.

No sane man will assert that we will be likely to have better terms offered us by Lincoln, when we are disintegrated and and divided, than he is ready to offer us now, when we are united and have armies yet in the field. It is generally believed that his present terms are: a general amnesty, including all offenders, however high or low, against his divine right—a reconstruction of the Union as it was, under the Federal Constitution *as it is*—the gradual but final abolition of slavery by the Southern States. In what the Federal Constitution *as it is*, differs from that Constitution *as it was*, when we severed from the North, is a point upon which we are uninformed, but of course it will be left to *his* judges to determine. Now suppose the reconstruction completed with the consent of all the States. We shall find ourselves, it is true, *nominally* represented in the Federal Congress but practically we shall have no voice in our own government; a greatly preponderating majority in the Presidential election; a majority in both Houses of Congress; a majority upon the judicial bench—over which we would have no control—will hold and sway the whole legislative, executive and judicial power of the government; a majority as foreign to us, as if they were bred in the vineyards of France, or in the vast territories of Russia; a majority not only foreign, but having every act of this war, in which we are now engaged, to avenge; a majority that will hold us in contempt for our weakness and in still greater contempt for our pusillanimity in having submitted to them without compulsion; a majority whose interests will always in their own opinion, and very frequently in reality be different from ours; a majority whose past history has shown them to be pitiless, unscrupulous, destitute of principle and incapable of generosity.

An enormous debt has been contracted by the Yankees, and the taxing power—entirely in the hands of this majority, will be so used, that while direct confiscation is avoided our substance will be gradually consumed, and pass into the hands of our northern masters. We shall sink into a degradation so deep—a misery so overwhelming—that we shall sigh for the hills to cover us, and the mountains to hide our shame. Our complaints will be neglected, and our threats will be despised, for we shall have already demonstrated our weakness, and our inability to resist by force, the utmost malice of our task-masters. In the supreme agony of our helplessness, anguish will consume our hearts, till unwept and unhonored we pass away from the earth, as a nation, weeping in vain for the bloody and desecrated graves of our fathers, our brothers, and our sons, whom God hath taken away from the evil to come, which we by our unworthy conduct will have dishonored as the sepulchres of rebellious traitors.

The *Progress* in a long and labored article of yesterday, in which reconstruction is more than hinted at, asks, in its usual croaking style, "what kind of a peace can we get?" and proceeds to demonstrate with the use of *croaking* arguments and anything else than patriotic figures that, the peace which we must finally accept, must be upon just such terms as the Yankee government may, in the goodness of their hearts, see fit to tender us, poor, benighted, erring rebels. In fact, the *Progress* seems disposed to do any way, or to take anything, *or nothing*, just as it may suit the feelings of "our brethren of the North," as the editor of that paper very affectionately terms the desolaters of our country. If we can get nothing, the *Progress* will take that, and be abundantly thankful; indeed, it would count itself fortunate, if, after losing all by Yankee vandalism, as it pretends to have done, it could only be allowed to escape from this government of tyranny, to the blessed clime of Yankee freedom, where, in company with spirits black and white, copper colored and variegated, it could be allowed the humble privilege of mingling in hosannahs to father Abraham, and, striking hands with those dear "kindred" of Yankee land so feelingly termed "our brethren of the North." In short, the *Progress* seems to be perfectly reckless as to the conditions; all it wants is peace.

Fortunately for the country; fortunately for freedom's sake; fortunately for the cause of honor and patriotism, the *Progress* represents the views of but precious few persons in this patriotic land of ours, and its teachings will not be productive of any great harm. Our suffering people, and bleeding soldiers have higher aims than ever warmed the bosom of that man who, for the sake of personal ease or political aggrandizement would yield a just cause to the blandishments or intrigues of an inveterate foe.

Our people set out in this war for independence. That is the goal for which they are striving. That is the goal for which the *Progress* has afortime pretended to strive. That was the purpose for which North Carolina withdrew from the Government of the United States. That was the cause for which Branch and Fisher, and Jackson and Stuart, and Johnson and Polk gave their lives. That is the great and all absorbing impulse which nerves the hearts of patriots every where. That is the price which our soldiers demand in payment for all their sufferings, privations and hardships.—Can we take less? Never.

Ask the soldier if he wants peace. He answers, "yes; peace with independence; nothing less." And shall we, who feel not the pangs of hunger, the privations of the camp, nor the fatigues of the march, be first to bow our heads in shame, in acceptance of such terms as the tyrant may propose? Surely not.

But, say the trembling petitioners for peace Mr. Lincoln may allow us to dictate our own terms; only ask of us that "we lay down our arms and return to the fold of the old Government."

Is that all? And will our people be caught with such chaff? You recollect that we once formed a part of that same old Government and, some of us, remember how these "Northern brethren" used to violate faith with us; would steal our property—and when, under the Constitution, we went in search of that property, we were maltreated and insulted.—That was done in the days of peace, long before the friends of the *Progress* assisted in voting North Carolina out of that old Government into the dominions of Jeff. Davis. If "our Northern brethren" would thus break faith with us in times of peace, what might we not expect, after the terrible and vindictive war which these same "brethren" have waged against us? We should justly merit all the abuses and insults that would most certainly fall to our lot. The soldiers say: "fight it out to independence!" The soldiers have a right to be heard. And we say, let their patriotic will be done.

The "Enquirer" thinks the proposition to impress all the cotton and tobacco in the Confederacy, now before the Congress, cannot but be attended with the best results, if adopted. In addition to the fact that it would give the Government an ample basis for the redemption of its notes and bonds, it would crystalise all selfish avarice into an interested patriotism which would make it so plainly the interest of every man to support the Government, that there would no longer be any division among our people, but unity and harmony would extend throughout our land and revive the confidence and faith of our people.

All non-combatants are requested to leave Augusta immediately.

The Provost Marshal is ordered to close all places of business and amusement and see that all men under the age of fifty, not physically disabled, take their places in the ranks.

We are glad to see this determination on the part of the military authorities to defend the city of Augusta, Ga.

HOBSON'S CHOICE.—The New York *Tribune* says that "should Wilmington hold out against the forces now in its vicinity, it will become an easy prey of Sherman, while if it surrenders before he approaches it, there is no longer a temptation for him to turn aside in his march to Raleigh." It seems that we are between the devil and the deep sea.—*Wil. Journal.*

TELEGRAPHIC

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by JOS. T. ROBBINS, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

Hood's Farewell Address to His Army.

HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY TENNESSEE, TUPELO, 23.—Soldiers: at my request, I have this day been relieved from the command of this army. In taking leave of you accept my thanks for the patience with which you have endured your hardships during the recent campaign. I am alone responsible for its conception and strived hard to do my duty in its execution. I urge upon you the importance of giving your entire support to the distinguished soldier who now assumes command, and I shall look, with deep interest, upon all your furture operations, and rejoice at your success.

J. B. HOOD Gen'l.

Sherman on the Move.

MACON, Jan. 28.—Private advices from Savannah state that Sherman commenced his movement in South Carolina on the 17th inst., with three columns, the main column moving towards Charleston taking nearly all of his transportation. Two other columns in light marching order, are moving by separate roads towards Branchville.

Gen. Hill has issued orders for non-combatants to leave Augusta.

The Marietta Hotel, at Marietta, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 20th, supposed to have been accidental.

New Appointments.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28.—Gen. Breckenridge has been appointed Secretary of War. Paymaster Johnson of North Carolina, Gov. Vance's competitor for Governor, when first elected will be appointed Commissary General *vice* Northrope, resigned.

From Wilmington.

WILMINGTON, Jan. 28.—A fire occurred a one o'clock, p. m., to-day, in a lot of cotton.—Four hundred and thirty-five bales on the wharf in front of the Custom House, nearly all of which was consumed, without damage to the buildings.

A stiff Northwest breeze—very cold.

Two car loads of cotton were consumed this morning on the Wilmington and Weldon railroad four miles from town.

All quiet below.

Peace Commissioners to Washington.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28.—Senator Hunter of Va., Vice President Stephens and Judge Campbell of Ala., have been appointed Commissioners to proceed to Washington to confer with the United States Government on the question of peace.

They will leave to morrow.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—Twenty-five Surgeons and assistant Surgeons, captured at Franklin and vicinity, arrived last night from Varina. Mr. Seddon continues to act as Secretary of War. The position was certainly tendered to Gen. Breckenridge. There are no reliable developments relative to Blair's mission, though it is generally supposed, he will propose re-union on such terms as the Confederate authorities might submit.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 24.—The Yankee gun boat Diachin, got aground in Combahee yesterday; our batteries opened upon her and set her on fire and she burned to the waters edge all the crew excepting a Lieutenant and five men escaped.

The prisoners brought to the city to-day report the vessel sunk off Sullivan's Island recently by torpedoes was the Patapsco; only five out of a crew of three hundred were saved. All the rest were drowned. Nothing important from below.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—The most important business in the House to-day, was the consideration of the Senate bill, to provide for the employment of free negroes and slaves on fortifications, &c. Mr. Ramsay moved a proviso, that said slaves shall not be armed or used as soldiers. Mr. Miles supported the amendment.

He was utterly opposed to arming the slaves. In the midst of his remarks, the house sustained a motion to transfer the bill to the secret calender, then resolved into secret session. The Senate concurred in the House joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. Williams, and passed, with amendments, the House bill to increase the efficiency of the cavalry; also passed another bill to increase the number of active midshipmen, in the navy, the provisions of which are intended to obviate the objections of the President, it being a bill recently vetoed.

Mr. Wigfall introduced a resolution restricting all laws, authorizing the empressment of property for the use of the army, except by military officers, and in case of absolute necessity, which after long debate was adopted.

RICHMOND, Jan. 28.—The Senate to-day, again passed the bill authorizing the transmission of newspapers to the soldiers free of postage, notwithstanding the President's objection—yeas 19, nays 4.

Nothing of importance done in the House.

From Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Jan 29.—During church hour to-day a heavy cannonading was in progress on our lines between ours and the enemy's river battery.

Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, commissioners, are still in the city, and will be passed through Gen. Bushrod Johnson's lines to-morrow. Their mission excites much comment in all circles.

From Mississippi.

JACKSON, Jan. 28.—Twenty-three houses six hundred bales of Commissary, and Quartermaster and other stores, were burned at Summit this morning. Fire accidental.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 29.—The House, rejected, in secret session after debate, a proposition to amend the Senate bill, for the employment of free negroes to work on fortifications, &c., by a proviso, that said slaves should not be armed and used as soldiers. The bill was further considered, amended and passed.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 29.—Our scouts report the enemy's infantry camped near Ennis' Cross Roads, on the road leading towards Grahamsville, and on the road leading to Sisters' Ferry. They have wagon trains with them.

A reconnoitering force was reported within four miles of Robertsville, this morning.

A small party of Yankees landed on Little Brittain Island, near Legares, on Saturday night but were driven off.

For the Confederate.

THE FALSE ONE.

Your friend, Charlie J., is here, although his *name* belongs to history now, it makes one sad to gaze on his calm, serene countenance indicating too surely a history of *the heart*. His friends are justly proud of the fame he has won, and well may the cruel Miss B. regret, that ever she rejected the noble heart which once was hers.

Extract from Letter.

He loved her once, he loves no more,
Since all his love has proved in vain;
She from his bleeding bosom tore,
A heart, all filled with bitter pain.

Oh! once he thought she loved him well,
When on his lips he felt her kiss,
But now both words and actions tell
How she destroyed all his bliss.

But, ah! think not that still he kneels
In humble homage at her shrine,
For in his soul he proudly feels,
He never more could call her "mine."

False one! though once you spurned his name
'Twill live when you are lying low,
Engraved high on some peak of fame
It will remain forever more.

FELTON, 9th V. C.

Mrs. Foote in Washington.

The Yankee correspondents in Washington are giving full particulars of Mrs. Foote's "escape from Rebeldom," etc. A special dispatch to the Philadelphia "Inquirer," (filling nearly a column,) after recounting the movements of Mr. and Mrs. Foote, after their departure from Richmond, and stating minutely the manner of the arrest of Mr. Foote, proceeds as follows:

Information reached Colonel Welles, at Alexandria, that Mrs. Foote was at Occoquan, and he sent out a cavalry force to bring her in. She arrived in Alexandria on Friday morning, and Secretary Seward, hearing of her arrival there, drove down, brought her up to Willard's, and ordered that she should be well cared for. It is understood that Mr. Seward expressed the opinion that Mr. Foote was in our lines when taken by the rebels—that he had renounced his faith in their cause, and was consequently under our protection, and his safety will be looked after by us as much as though he were at present a member.

Mr. Foote has resigned his seat in the rebel House of Representatives assigning as reasons, "The suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*;" "the passage of acts in secret session against the interests of the people;" that the Senate and the majority of the House are in the interests of Jeff. Davis, and have passed such laws as tend to extinguish the liberties of the people, and disastrously affect their interests."

Instead of starvation, Davis and his friends live as well as they ever did in Richmond, the rebel Treasury footing the bills.

Mrs. Foote is a middle aged woman, not over forty-five, and in excellent health. She is accompanied by her youngest son, of three years, the rest of her family being in Nashville.

Mr Foote is thoroughly disgusted with the Confederacy, which, instead of being an independent Government, as he set out to attain, it has come to be a question of dictatorship for Davis, who is centralizing the entire power of the Confederacy in himself. In league with him are all but Trenholm, Secretary of the Treasury.

Mrs. Foore does not think the Blairs' mission, if intended for peace, will avail anything. Many of the people of the South are weary of their burdens and losses, and would willingly quit and make peace, if they could be guaranteed an amnesty and secured their property and slaves.

It is intended by Davis to arm and equip two hundred thousand slaves for the next summer campaign.

Had Mr. Foote reached here it was his intention to try and mediate for his oppressed people, independent of the rebel chief, and failing to make peace, to travel in some foreign clime, and end his days in a calm review of his past life.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO

Announce Capt. L. E. RIGGAN as a candidate for the office of County Trustee, at the next February term for Wake County. If elected he pledges himself to a faithful discharge of his duties.

feb 1-w3t*

ATTENTION!

As I shall very soon remove from the county; those indebted to me are earnestly requested to call immediately and close their accounts.

For wheat or corn, the highest cash prices previous to 1860, will be allowed for professional services at old prices.

If paid in Confederate money, Confederate prices will be charged.

feb 1-w2t* B. F. GRAHAM.

NOTICE.

The undersigned has two good Spinning Machines for sale, which he will sell for Confederate money, and Confederate money only. These machines gin the cotton, card and spin it, seed cotton only can be used. They are capable of spinning from six to eight, four cut, hanks per day—spin either warp or filling.

Terms made known on application.

Apply either, to the undersigned at Cobourn's Store, Union County, N. C., or to C. Austin, member of the House of Commons, at Raleigh, N. C., during the session of the Legislature.

C. Q. LEMMOND.

N. B. Said Machines will be delivered either at Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, or at Salisbury, Rowan county, to suit purchasers.

feb 1-w3t*

NORTH CAROLINA, } JOHNSTON COUNTY, } COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSIONS.

November Term, 1864.

JOHN G. GULLEY, vs. Gaston Parrish, Augustus Parrish, Nathan Boykin, O. L. Dodd.

Scire Facias to revive Judgment.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that the above named defendants are non-residents, *it is ordered*, That publication be made for them to appear at February Term, 1865, of this Court, to plead in the above entitled suit, or judgment according to the scire facias will be rendered.

January 1st, 1865. J. H. PARKER, County Court Clerk.

jan 1-d6t-wt27feb.

RUNAWAY.

Taken up and committed to jail, in Concord, Cabarrus county, N. C., a negro boy who says his name is JOHN SMITH, and says he belongs to Eliza Ellison and William Canada, of Wake county, and that he was purchased of Thos. Smith, of Hyde county, about 5 years ago. Said boy is about 20 years old, 5 feet 5 inches high, slow of speech, yellow complexion, had on white cotton pants, dove colored cassmere coat; and says he was hired last year to the High Sheals Iron Manufacturing Company.

The owner is hereby notified to come forward prove property, pay charges and take him away.

N. BLOUGH, Sheriff of Cabarrus county, N. C.

feb 1-w6m

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1865.

Those of our citizens who are willing to submit, and accept reconstruction with the States of the North, are not actuated by a belief, that such an event would be very beneficial to us. The beauty of the prospect, is not what entices them to rush on, to what we believe will be our certain destruction: and this is sufficiently evident, not only from the unanimity with which they agree, in the beginning, that a separation once effected, should be final and eternal—not only from the very dark picture, which even the most superficial view of the consequences of reconstruction, presents—but also from their own statement that they prefer reconstruction by consent, as the *alternative* to subjugation, which to them seems, to be inevitable.

The truth is, they have so lively a sense of the ills under which they now suffer, so keen an appreciation of the hardships they now endure, and so deadly an apprehension of the perils which war entails; that evils in the distance, however great, have no terrors for them; that "the weariest and most loathed worldly life, that age ache penury imprisonment can lay on nature," so it be coupled with *peace*, is in their eyes a Paradise, when compared with their present state of existence. It is not pleasant to stand in the fore-front of battle, and see the red flashing of the guns, and the deadly glitter of the bayonets of an approacning line of enemies; to hear the booming of the great guns, the shrieking, crashing and groaning of hostile shot and shell, and the sharp hissing of murderous bullets; to witness the fall, all around and about us, of our best friends and daily companions, who have but a moment before, drunk from the same cup and eaten from the same platter with ourselves, and see them carried out of the field streaming with blood from every possible character of ghastly wound. It is not very pleasant even to know that *others* are enduring these things, among whom are our own fathers and brothers and sons, when we are not very certain but that our turn may come next. It is not agreeable, to the most patriotic of men, to have their private property taken for public uses, either with or without just compensation. It is not agreeable to go into battle without our own consent first had and obtained, and to know that there is a stern unbending power in existence, which *can*, and at any moment *may*, lay its in tolerable grasp upon us, in the midst of the delights of money making and the sweet converse of private life, snatch us away, and place us amid the dangerous guns and swords, unwilling candidates for fame. It is not agreeable to talkative impulsive philanthropists, who are not over well affected towards the common cause of their countrymen, to know that the privalege of the writ of Habeas Corpus is in abeyance; for philanthrophy has no fair play, when men are struggling for existence. It is not pleasant to eat homely fare, to dine scantily, to drink home made liquors and wear homespun clothes, when men have been accustomed to better things. It is not pleasant for "hands that the rod of empire might have swayed," to be compelled to confine themselves to some meaner employment—and this class is *so* numerous—for Dr. Swift says "every man knows "that he understands religion and politics, "though he never learned them; but that "many people are conscious that they do not "understand many other sciences, from having "never learned them." And finally, it is fairly disgusting to unwarlike Generals

> "That never set a squadron in the field,
> "Nor the division of battle know,
> "More than a spinster,"

to find that their advice is not asked, nor their volunteer counsel followed in the conduct of the war, the management of the war department, the assignment of generals to commands, the plannings of campaigns, or the actual conduct of battles.

But let us consider; these things are the natural, necessary and inevitable concomitants of war, conducted on the exaggerated scale that we are compelled to use, in the conduct of this one; and the pangs of neglected and insulted genius, are incident to every age and time, and country. We earnestly exhort men, who are endeavoring to shun these ills, by submission and reconstruction with the United States, to be very sure, that they will not be immediately subjected to the same evils, under less favorable circumstances, after a reconstruction with their Northern brethren.

Now just so surely as the United States succeeds, in cajoling the States which compose the Southern Confederacy, into submission and reconstruction, just as certainly will the reconstructed nation be involved in an interminable war with Great Britain and France. The probability is so great that it amounts to a certainty; so great that thinking men in this country, have been astounded, that one, or both of these nations, have not already intervened in our affairs, on this side the water, to prevent so great a catastrophe; so great that many yet believe, that they have only been heretore withheld, because they were of opinion, that the South would hold its own against the Yankee nation, and that when they are satisfied the supreme moment of our fate has arrived, they will, even now, interpose to prevent the reconstruction of the old Union.

Here will be a nation with more than a million trained soldiers. Here will be men, who have for four or five years, given up all other pursuits, to follow the peculiar calling of the soldier, they are tired of it now, but let them return to the ordinary avocations of civil life, they will find themselves unfitted for them, and all experience has demonstrated, that there is a strange fascination in the adventurous dashing life of a military career, for those who have once tried it—they would be ready to flock in thousands to the standard of any man, who could afford them the old life of excitement and danger, to which they have become accustomed. There is hardly a breath of popular feeling which reaches us from the North, but is tainted with their hostility to these two nations; and our people are also naturally indignant with them, for the cold blooded indifference and scorn, with which they appear to have regarded our struggle for existence.

Maximilian has founded his empire in Mexico. The lower house of the Yankee Congress, has passed resolutions, expressing the determination of the Yankee people, to maintain the Monroe doctrine, which forbids the establishment of any European power on this continent. In the passage of the consular and Diplomatic bill, both Houses of the Yankee Congress, have refused to recognize Maximilian, as the lawful Governor of Mexico He is placed there and sustained by the French Emperor. The Yankee Government has taken the preliminary steps to determine the treaty of reciprocity between the United States and Great Britain, and has made appropriations for building gun boats in the Canadian Lakes. Great Britain, on the other hand, has ordered thirty gunboats, with thirty five hundred men, to cruise in those waters. Under these circumstances, we find Lincoln, at a period when, as he supposes we have sustained some serious military disasters, for the first time, sending Francis P. Blair to Richmond upon an embassy it is said, of peace and reconstruction, and on his returning unsuccessful sending him in hot haste, again. If reconstruction is effected, no more effectual method for consolidating Lincoln's power could be suggested, than a popular foreign war. Under such circumstances, who that studies passing events, can fail to perceive, that an immediate war, between the reconstructed United States, and Great Britain and France is inevitable?

Such a war would be no child's play; it would be gigantic in its proportions; the combined strength of Great Britain and France is enormous. An immense army and a huge navy would have to be kept up, by, probably, as stern a conscription as that to which we are now subjected. Provost marshals would be stationed at every street corner, especially in the Southern States. The booming of cannon, the shrieking of shot and shell, the hissing of bullets, and the flashing of sword and bayonet, would have to be met, then as now. Death and blood and wounds would be then also occurrences of every day life. Slaves—if we had any left—and free negroes too, would be material for soldiers, side by side with their late masters. Who doubts that our ports would be blockaded by the great fleets of these European nations, and heavy taxes, an inflated currency, high prices, hard times, and homely living would again be the order of the day? Who doubts that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus would be suspended; when Lincoln now claims and exercises the right to suspend it, by his proclamation alone, without the intervention of Congress, and a recent debate in the Federal Congress discloses, that it is the constan practice, not only of President Lincoln or his Secretary of State, but of any member of the Cabinet who chooses, and even of the Solicitor of the Treasury, to clap any man into prison, upon his own suspicion of anything, and there to keep him without trial, without intercourse with his friends, without any information of what he is charged withal? Who doubts further, that there would be then as now, unappreciated statesmen and military geniuses, "of whom the world is not worthy," whose counsels would be neglected, and whose claims would be ignored in the conduct of the national affairs?

And all this we would have to endure, *not* then as now, of our own free will, to save ourselves, our wives and our little ones, from degradation and bondage, to maintain our own honor, to secure our own independence, with the pure aspirations and the brave hopes which every Confederate soldier has a right to entertain; but in obedience to the behests of our masters, to consolidate our fetters and to rivet our chains.

We give below a copy of a bill recently passed by the House of Representatives to diminish the number of "exemptions." Of course it has to go to the Senate before it becomes the law of the land:

"*The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That so much of the act 'to organize forces to serve during the war,' approved Februar y 17, 1864, as exempts one person or overseer or agriculturist on each farm or plantation, upon which there were, at specified time, fifteen able bodied field hands between the ages of sixteen and fifty, upon certain conditions, is hereby repealed.

"SECTION 2 No exemption or detail shall be granted by the President or Secretary of War by virtue of said act, except of persons lawfully reported by a board of surgeons as unable to perform active service in the field, persons over the age of forty years, and of artisans, mechanics, and persons of scientific skill employed by, or working for the government, and shown by proper testimony to be artisans, mechanics, or persons of scientific skill; and, with the same exceptions, all exemptions and details heretofore granted by the President or Secretary of War by virtue of said act are hereby revoked; the bonds heretofore given by exempted and detailed men shall bind them to comply with the same, only to an extent bearing the same proportion to the whole amount which would be due thereon in one year if this act had not passed, as the time they shall have been exempted or detailed bears to a year.

"SECTION 3. No person shall be exempt by virtue of the act "to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service," approved April 14, 1863, unless such person shall be over forty-five years of age, except contractors personally engaged in the execution of contracts now existing.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Jan. 26, 1865.

Resolutions and memorials in the case of Dr. Henry P. Ritter, transmitted from the House, were read and referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

Mr. Matthews introduced a bill to amend "an act to increase the efficiency of the Home Guard."

Resolutions to procure exemption from military service, of millers and artizans, in order to serve the public, were agreed to yeas 21, nays 19.

The bill to make robbery of dwelling houses in the day time a capital offence, being before the Senate, was after a lengthy discussion of the question, whether the punishment were not too severe for the crime, laid on the table, by yeas 25 nays 14.

The special order—resolutions in reference to impressments by the Confederate Government, with a proposed amendment to strike out the second and third resolutions—being under consideration, Mr. Odom strenuously opposed the adoption of the amendment, contending that the manner in which the impressment laws were executed was both "galling" and "opinions"

Mr. Courts said he should vote for the amendment and in case it failed, should then vote against the whole measure. The object of these two resolutions—the second and the third—he could not but think was to cast slurs upon the authorities at Richmond.

Mr. Ward deemed the impressment law necessary, and defended them on the ground of their great utility. At the conclusion of his remarks,

Mr. Dick proceeded to address the Senate at length on the pending resolutions, opposing the proposed amendment to strike out the second and third, and reviewing the general course of the administration, in proof of his position that they needed to be spoken to plainly. In the course of his animadversions he dwelt particularly on the facts that Wilmington—the most important place in the South—had been left with a garrison of only 8000 when North Carolina had furnished 120-000 troops; that representatives even in their own State could not travel unmolested without procuring papers like negroes, and that irresponsible congressional legations from Kentucky and Missouri had power to force upon North Carolina laws wholly abhorrent to her. In conclusion, he declared he had no idea of giving up the liberties of the State of North Carolina to either Abraham Lincoln or Jefferson Davis, and said that as Xenophon and the Ten Thousand, after years of trials and suffering, cried out at last the sea! the sea! so the people of the South were clamouring for peace! peace!

The Senate then adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 27, 1865.

A message was received from the House transmitting bills and resolutions, which were read the first time, as follows: bills to incorporate the trustees of the Hill Orphan Fund, and to exempt certain employees of newspapers from Home Guard duty, and resolutions to authorize His Excellency, the Governor, to transfer the *material* of the State salt works at Wilmington to Saltville or any other point, in favor of privates, non commissioned and commissioned officers, and to allow S. F. Phillips Esq, $750 for services as commissioner to investigate the State blockade operations and H. S. Thomas, clerk, $600. This latter resolution, under a suspension of the rules, passed its second and third readings

Mr. Arendell introduced a resolution to allow the amount of their necessary expenses to the Surgeons of Home Guard Examining Boards, and the hour for the consideration of the special order—the impressment resolutions having arrived, the question being on the adoption of Mr. Ellis' amendment to strike out the second and third resolutions. Mr. Bryson proceeded to address the Senate thereon, saying that while he deemed a portion of these resolutions right and proper, he could not endorse all. Wrong had been done, he knew by the execution of the impressment laws, but the passage of resolutions like these under consideration was not the way to reform abuses. But two weeks ago a year's supply of provisions he had just purchased was impressed, thereby putting him to no little trouble and inconvenience. Instead of crying out that this was an outrage and making it the occasion to attack the Government, he looked upon it only as the fault of an inefficient officer who did not understand his duty. The speaker then proceeded to speak generally in defence of the Government, upholding the necessity and propriety of impressment, conscription, the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, and other measures of contested legality. In the final and glorious success of the cause, he expressed his fullest conviction and vehemently opposed the idea of there being any necessity for a Convention, arguing that if such Convention should be summoned and by its action the State should alter its present position, North Carolina would have to fight the combined armies of Lee and Grant.

Mr Lassiter upheld the resolutions, declaring that this was the only way in which the people could make known to the government, the grievances entailed by the operation of the impressment law. All governments, Mr. L. continued, pass at times bad laws, and against such laws the people have a right to protest. He then went on to discuss the resolutions, *seriatim*, contending for the propriety of each, and declaring that if adopted the government would, if acting wisely, heed the remonstrance.

Mr. Pitchford said he was opposed to this perpetual carping at the government. He had never been a secessionist, but *now* he stood by the government. His sons were voluntarily in the army, and in his garden at home was a mound enwrapping the one slain at Cold Harbor. How could he, then, thinking of his dead child, say that the government for which he fell, for which his brothers were still in the field, for which he, old as he was, would do service, was a government of oppression? He did not believe it; he thought no wrong had been intended; the hardships we suffered were inevitable, and he could only address those who believed all lost, in the words of Burns:

> "Who would be a traitor knave,
> Who would live to be a slave,
> Who would fill a coward's grave,
> Let him turn and flee."

Mr. Warren thought the second and third resolutions both true in themselves and germane to the general subject of impressment, and strenuously advocated their adoption.

On motion of Mr. Wiggins the vote on the proposition to strike out these resolutions was taken by yeas and nays and they were stricken out by yeas 23, nays 16, as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Aycock, Bryson, Crump, Courts, Ellis, Grier, Harris, Horton Kirby, McCorkle, McEachern, Miller, Patterson, Patton, Pitchford, Smith, Speight Straughan, Ward, Whitford, Wiggins, Wright, Wynne—23.

NAYS.—Messrs. Arendell, Bagley, Berry Blount, Bogle, Dick, Jones, Lassiter, Leitch Long, Matthews, Odom, Snead, Stubbs, Warren, Winstead—16.

The following are the resolutions stricken out:

Resolved, That this General Assembly takes occasion in this connexion to express the opinion that much of the machinery by which the Confederate Government gives effect to the extraordinary measures connected with this war, is both galling and ominous, and is well calculated to agitate a people reflecting upon their lineage and former freedom.

Resolved, further, That such experiments upon the temper of this commonwealth have increased, are increasing and ought to be diminished.

Mr. Dick moved an amendment to strike out all after "*Resolved*" and insert a substitute. Not agreed to.

The resolutions, as amended then passed their second reading by yeas 36 nays 3 Messrs Aycock, Bryson, and Ward.

Under a suspension of the rules, the resolutions were then put upon their third reading and passed, as follows:

Resolutions upon the subject of impressments by the Confederate Government.

WHEREAS, it is a plain principle of justice that all the expenses caused by the present war should be borne by the various citizens in due proportion to their property; and whereas, the prices occasioned by the depreciation of the currency are fairly to be reckoned amongst such expenses; whereas, further, it is equally unjust and unconstitutional for the Confederate Government to appropriate the property of private citizens without just compensation to the owners: Therefore,

Resolved, That this General Assembly, in the name of the good people of North Carolina, doth solemnly protest against the system now in force throughout this State, by which the Confederate Government claims and exercises the power of *impressing* private property at certain nominal rates, arbitrarily established, and known as schedule prices.

Resolved, That His Excellency Governor Vance be requested to transmit copies of these Resolutions to His Excellency the President of the Confederate States; and also to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to be by them laid before that honorable body.

And the Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY Jan. 26.

Mr. Shepherd in the chair.

The Committee on privileges and elections reported, that in the contested election case for the county of Northampton, no fraud appeared on the part of either contestant but in the returns appeared such informality as lead them to doubt who was in reality elected, Wherefore they submitted resolutions to declare the seat for Northampton vacant, to provide for a new election to fill the same, and to allow the present contestments (Messrs Rogers and Calvert) the legislative mileage and *per diem* during their attendance during the session.

Mr. Grissom introduced resolutions to provide for the appointment by each Sheriff of a Deputy, to declare such Deputy a State officer, and to call upon the Governor, in the case of such officer being conscripted, to demand his return to his official duties. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Bill to prevent obstructions to the passage of fish up Newbegan Creek, (and on motion of Mr. Benbury Chowan river,) and to amend the 101st chap Revised Code, passed under a suspension of the rules, their second and third readings.

The bill to exempt the Mayor and Commissioners and certain municipal officers of the City of Raleigh from Home Guard duty being under consideration,

Mr. Benbury moved it be so amended as to extend its provisions to all incorporate towns in the State. Agreed to.

Mr. McAden moved a further amendment to include farmers selling produce at schedule rates to soldiers families, and those who were the heads of families of four children. Agreed to, and the bill was then tabled for the present.

On motion the consideration of resolutions introduced by Mr. Carter, on the subject of peace—the special order for the day, was postponed till Tuesday next at 12 m., and the House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, January 27, 1864.

Mr. Shepherd in the chair.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of the Presbyterian church.

Leave of absence was granted Mr. Riddick till Monday next Mr. Rogers till Tuesday, and Mr. Hassell till Thursday.

A communication was received from the Public Treasurer, read and sent to the Senate.—(It is communication asks for information as to what class of State, notes it was the intention of the Legislature, half of the appropriations for 1865 and 1866 should be paid in to the Insane Asylum, and declares no drafts will in future be paid said institution beyond the amount of the appropriations made therefor.)

Mr. J. H. Headen introduced a bill to amend the charter of the Lockville Iron Company. Passed, under a suspension of the rules.

The bill to exempt certain employees of the N. C. Powder works was passed, after being amended, under a suspension of the rules.

A bill concerning exemptions being before the House was, on motion of Mr. McGehee, amended so as to allow the injuction against the impressment of private property, in cases of alleged unjust price, except when the impressing officer shall give security to abide by the price to be decreed, and the bill passed its final reading. Resolutions requesting the appraising State Commissioners to allow market value for articles impressed in case of an appeal, passed its third reading, and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Jan. 28, 1865.

Mr. Bryson presented a memorial from citizens of Clay county, praying certain appointments as Magistrates.

Mr. Patterson introduced a bill to continue in force till 1867, the provisions of an act amendatory of chapter 36, Revised Code, which, under a suspension of the rules, passed. (This act legalizes a suspension of specie payment of banks.)

Mr. Warren, a bill to amend the Revenue act (by imposing a tax of $1,000 on obtaining from the General Assembly acts of incorporation or amendments thereto), and a bill for the relief of Wm. B. Campbell, sheriff of Beaufort county, which latter, under a suspension of the rules, passed.

Resolutions in favor of D. F. Bagley, sheriff of Perquimans, and of A. Saunders, sheriff of Montgomery, and a bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Hill Orphan Fund, passed their third reading.

The resolutions protesting against the policy of emancipation for public services were taken up and passed, by yeas 39, nays 8.

The resolutions as passed are as follows:

Resolved, That the State of North Carolina protests against the arming of the slaves by the Confederate Government, in any emergency that can possibly arise—but gives its consent to their being taken and used as laborers in the public service, upon just compensation being made.

Resolved, That North Carolina denies the constitutional power of the Confederate Government to impress slaves for the purpose of arming them, or preparing them to be armed in any contingency, without the consent of the States being first freely given—and then, only according to State laws.

Resolved, That his Excellency, Governor Z. B. Vance, be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives.

Bills to provide an armed police for the town of Fayetteville, and to amend the charter of the Drakesville Iron Co., and resolutions authorising the removal of the salt works from Wilmington passed their third reading.

Mr. Pitchford, rising to a personal explanation, said he had not declared, as was the impression, that he had declared that "we"—meaning thereby the Confederate States—"*were whipped*," but that just now we were whipped, as we had been at Donelson and Vicksburg, by having been defeated in military engagements. He was far from saying or believing that we were subjugated.

A bill to exempt press employees from Home Guard duty, save in cases of servile insurrection, or invasion by the public enemy, of the county, passed its second reading—yeas 21, nays 18, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Shepherd in the Chair.

Prayer by Rev. R Mason Jr., of the Episcopal Church.

A message was sent the Senate transmitting resolutions proposing to raise a Joint Select Committee, of two on the part of the House and one from the Senate, to examine into the general financial and business management of the Insane Asylum, and to enquire as to the propriety of further sustaining said institution, in which propositions the Senate concurred, the House being informed thereof by message from that body. Also, another message was sent the Senate transmitting therewith bills to exempt the officers and employees of the N. C. Powder Manufacturing Co. from military duty (on condition they make the State powder when required and pay 25 per. cent. of their annual profits over into the Treasury); to amend the charter of the Drakesville Iron Co., in the county of Chatham and a bill concerning injunctions, and resolutions in favour of C. Jackson, S McFarlane, D. F. Bagley, S. F. Phillips, and H. L. Plummer.

A message having been received from the Senate transmitting House resolutions concerning impressments, with amendments thereto, extra message and resolution were, on motion of Mr. Phillips laid on the table.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of nominations for appointments as magistrates, at the conclusion of which the lists concurred in were sent the Senate and the House adjourned.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Jan. 30, 1865.

Prayer by the Rev. R. S. Mason, Jr., of the Episcopal church.

From the Committee on Propositions and Grievances the resolutions in the case of Dr. Henry P. Ritter, were reported with a recommendation they do pass.

From the Committee on the Judiciary, the bill to prevent the further sacrifice of property (by the exaction of specie payments on execution) was reported with a request that the committee be discharged from the further consideration thereof. So ordered.

A message, received from the House, transmitting appointments of Magistrates, was then taken up and the appointments discussed.—Pending this discussion, another message was received from the House transmitting other nominations.

Mr. Pitchford moved these messages, with accompanying lists, be laid on the table. Not agreed to—yeas 11, nays 19, and the nominations (hard on three hundred and fifty in number) were then concurred in.

The hour of twelve arriving, the special order therefor was taken up, being Mr. Ellis' resolutions to pay to soldiers serving out the war, a bounty of fifty acres of land and one negro fellow. In support of this resolution Mr. Ellis spoke at some length, declaring no one had a better right to both land and negroes than the man who was fighting for the defence and possession of one and the other, and in conclusion, saying he utterly scouted and scoffed at any idea of our now or hereafter being subjugated.

At the conclusion of his remarks,

Mr. Grier moved to strike out the words "who was not a slave holder at the time of such enlistment," in order to make the bounty equal as the service. Agreed to, yeas 16, nays 10

Mr. Patton moved to lay the resolutions on the table. Not agreed to.

Mr. Arendell moved they be referred to the Judiciary Committee, and the Senate so ordered.

The bill to exempt the employees of newspapers from Home Guard duty, save in certain great emergencies, being before the Senate,

Mr. Dick moved to amend by extending the provisions of the bill to mill-wrights.—Not agreed to, yeas 11, nays 17.

Mr. Leitch moved to exempt a deputy sheriff in counties where there is no tax collector. Not agreed to, yeas 13, nays 15.

And the bill then failed to pass its third reading, yeas 14, nays 15.

THE CAT OUT OF THE WALLET AT LAST.

Mr. Horton moved an adjournment, *sine die*, on Wednesday next, the first of February, and proceeding to advocate his motion, declared it was useless to wait for the return of commissioners, when he was called to order by

Mr. Arendell, who stated it was not in order to discuss in open session what had been agitated in secret, and was sustained in the point raised by the Speaker, notwithstanding which,

Mr. Horton proceeded to say that everybody knew Commissioners had been sent but did'nt know what for. (Laughter.) He was not in favor of waiting for *somebody*, for in this way the Senate might never be able to adjourn in case *somebody* did'nt come. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Leitch moved the resolution be referred to the committee on adjournment, which was done, and the Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Fowle in the Chair.

A message was sent to the Senate transmitting a number of appointments as magistrates.

Mr. Brown of Mecklenburg, moved a message be sent the Senate proposing a joint order of adjournment, *sine die*, on Wednesday next, the first of February at nine o'clock a. m.

Mr. Grissom moved the resolution be laid on the table. So ordered, yeas 44, nays 34.

Mr. J. H. Headen moved an adjournment on Friday next, the third of February, over to the first of April, 1865. Informally passed over.

Mr. Sharpe introduced a resolution in reference to the Insane Asylum (calling for information as to the receipts from and the expenditures on account of the farm of that institution; also, as to the number of patients from other States and the expenses incurred by their reception.)

Mr. McLean, a resolution in reference to the subject of salt, (authorizing his excellency the Governor, to contract with Stuart, Buchanan & Co, if deemed necessary, for a supply of salt for 1865) which, under a suspension of the rules, passed its various readings.

Mr. Mason introduced a bill in regard to the magistrates of Pasquotank county.

Mr. Jordan, a bill concerning county surveyors.

Mr. Bond of Gates, a bill to create a homestead free-hold, by exempting from taxation fifty acres of land, including that portion whereon the dwelling house and necessary out buildings are, the property of any citizen of North Carolina.

The bill to allow fifteen magistrates in the county of Halifax, to transact all county business therein passed under a suspension of the rules, its final reading.

The bill to amend the act authorizing the Governor to employ slave labor on fortifications, etc. being on its second reading, did not pass the same, yeas, 19, nays 55.

The bill to restore jury trials in certain cases in the county of Chowan passed its second, and, under a suspension of the rules its third reading.

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of the people (taxing all collections in specie on executions 90 per cent.) being before the House, it was moved it be tabled. Not agreed to, yeas 38, nays 52, and it was then formally passed over, yeas 51, nays 12.

A message was received from the Senate stating the concurrence of that body in the nominations for magistrates made by the House, and the House then adjourned.

[Among the magistrates appointed at this session there were for Wake county Messrs. A. P. C. Bryan, Jas. P. Chandler, Thos. C. Smith, E. E. Gill, Isaac H. Rogers, R. C. Badger, T. H. Hill, Wm. R. Richardson, Garrett Broadwell, John Johnson and J. T. Leach.]

For the Confederate.

MR. EDITOR:—After perusing the "*Progress*" this morning, I felt quite *muse*ical, and could not refrain from giving expression to the following:

> Boys, hold up the Flag,
> Our Red Flag of Battle.
> Let the loud cannon roar
> And musketry rattle.
> Not yet the War-demon
> Shrinks back to his hell,
> Not yet can the Peace-King
> Come among us to dwell.
> We will not hold up,
> The White Flag of Peace,
> Till Freedom prevails
> And tyrannies cease.
>
> Then hold up our Flag
> Unstained let it wave,
> Let's have *Freedom* with Peace,
> Or War and the Grave
> Let it wave in defiance
> Before the base foe,
> Let's defend it forever
> Come weal or come woe.
> We will not hold up
> The White Flag of Peace
> Till Freedom prevails.
> And tyrannies cease.
>
> But the sword shall be broken,
> And fall from our hand,
> When Northmen shall yield us,
> The rights we demand.
> *Never* home let us go,
> Where the hearth-fires burn
> Till *free* hearts are waiting
> To greet our return.
> *Then*, we'll up with the Flag
> The White Flag of Peace
> When Freedom prevails,
> And tyrannies cease.

FELTON, 9TH V. C.

The Dying Soldier.

[BY GEN. ROBERT B. VANCE.]

A Confederate prisoner of war, at "Camp Chase," Ohio, was lying on his bunk in a dying state. His brother soldiers kept vigil at his side. At length he was quite still, and all thought the struggle was over, when he suddenly rallied, opened his eyes and said: "Boys, never take the oath—the country is safe—the Confederacy will triumph,"—and expired at once:

> The wintry wind went howling by with drear and piercing breath,
> As on hi couch a soldier lay, the victim of grim death;
> For o'er him then the icy hand was closing hard and fast,
> His dying sighs commingling sad with evening's solemn blast.
>
> Not one was there of all he'd known, in better times than these,
> To smooth his brow, to kiss his cheek, and give his bosom ease;
> For far from them the stricken one was failing slow and sure,
> Nor precious pets, nor tender friends were there to weep or cure.
>
> His home was in the bonny South, the land of sun and flowers,
> And far away the household band did keep the weary hours;
> And night and morn they offered up, within his distant home,
> The prayer that God would bring him hence, but still he did not come.
>
> And e'en his babes would query oft, of their fond mother true,
> "Why don't pappa come home again to meet with us and you?"
> And broken hearts and tears were there to mark the absent one,
> Who linger'd in his foeman's grasp, life's conflict nearly done.
>
> But not with anguish on his sight this touching vision fell,
> His God, he knew, was kind and just, "He doeth all things well;"
> From Him they come, to Him they gave; then, with a chastened will,
> He sank upon his newly bed, 'till life itself seem'd still.
>
> We watch'd him as he calmly lay, and thought the struggle o'er,
> His martial step and manly voice we'd see and hear no more;
> Nor in the battle's fierce array would he for country stand,
> His pure, heroic could had fled into the dreamless land.
>
> But, strange to tell, he mov'd again, and open'd his dying eye,
> While on his face a smile was seen, of purpose noble high;
> "All's risen," he said, "reject the name; my native South will win;"
> And then his spirit pass'd away from earth and sin.
>
> A strange, wild thrill ran through us all, as these brave words were said,
> And many a stern, undaunted eye, the tear of sorrow shed;
> And vows were spoke from mouth to mouth by ev'ry Southlandson,
> "May God to us do so and more if e'er this this is done."

Fort Delaware, Aug. 30th, 1864.

The French are building at Toulon a new iron clad war steamer, which they claim will be superior to anything yet built in Europe or America. This new engine of war is called Le Tonnau, lies low in the water, is round backed like a turtle turns quickly on its axis, is heavily cutrassed, has great speed, and carries a big gun fore and aft.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1865.

At a late ball for dancing and carousal, at the Government House, Hobert Town, Van Dieman's Land, four "Tasmanians," the only Tasmanians of the island, appeared as among the invited guests.

It is about fifty years ago only, that these Tasmanians or aboriginal inhabitants of that portion of Australasia, known as Van Dieman's Land, numbered some seven thousand souls. It was then that England began to use this island as a penal colony; and then that the savages of this far off island, in the division of Oceanica, began to come in contact with European civilization. How advantageous it has been to them—this contact of two races—appears in the remarkable statement we have made above, and which we derive from a London Journal. Out of the seven thousand aboriginal inhabitants of Van Dieman's Land, the four—one man and three woman—who appeared at the last ball at the "Government House," to pay their respects to *His Excellency*, are all that are left of the Tasmanians. The man is the *last man* of his race; and the women are but three. *All the rest*, with whatever of increase they may ever have had, are *exterminated*—perished out of existence—dead and clean gone forever. They were savages there—original inhabitants of Tasmania—very much after the kind and color of our negroes, before they are civilized by the institution of slavery. They were a dark-skinned people, with woolly or kinky hair; and are described as an artless and confiding race, who trusted in the strangers and welcomed their coming. They were, of course, inferior to the white Englishman, and were awed by his power. They were not only *inferior*, as barbarism is inferior to civilization, but they were of an infinitely inferior race; proving, in the very moment of their contact with the whites, their dependence and inferiority. Had they been duly subordinated and controlled, it is hardly to be doubted that they would, at this day, have numbered a population of thousands, with the natural increase of humanity; and might have been happy, and prosperous, and contented, under the supervision of a superior race. But British benevolence could not bear to make them slaves; and they have been only exterminated. An English paper, published in Hobert Town, called the *Mercury*, thinks there is something "serious, if not very affecting," about this spectacle of the *'last man, and his three companions'*—the remnant of the unhappy people of whom the race is all extinguished, under the influence of christian civilized associations. And we think so too. Not only "serious and affecting," but positively distressing. We know not ever to have before, come face to face with a more sad scene in the drama of life. It is not without an emotion of sympathy, or a pang of regret, that we have read of the discoveries of geology—upturned strata of once living, but long since extinguished races of animals, above whom, others, also extinguished, lie burried on each other—stratum on stratum. But, here is a race of human beings, in their own country, in population adapted to the proportions of the Island; and its capabilities for subsistence; in their own clime, one benificently accommodated to their welfare—absolutely exterminated, and wiped out off the face of the earth.

There is a mournful lesson in this story.—The same effect is going on from the contact of two races in New Holland and Australia. It has been more swift in Tasmania, because the Island was of moderate size, and there were no means of escape. In New Holland, the same results are hastening on; and, in Australia, in the small portions which have been occupied, the vicinity is just as fatal to the inferior aborigines.

The proof is irrefragable that two races cannot occupy the same territory, and meet in daily association, except on the condition of the final extinction of, the *inferior*, sooner or later. The only exception to this is found in the institution of slavery, which protects, cherishes and ameliorates the condition of the dependent race, under which it multiplies and prospers.

It is too late now to argue this before the bar of public opinion; but the negro—the Southern negro in by far the larger number—the Southern negro knows for himself this to be the fact; and, if he could have his wish he would rather be let alone;—be allowed to stay with his master and mistress to work, and to be clothed and fed; to have his wife and children on his neighbor's plantation, and, to be allowed to visit them, carrying his wallet on his back and his pass in his pocket; occasionally to be allowed to do a job for himself and earn a little of *his own money;* and above all, *to stay in his range*, in the locality where he was born, where his father and mother grew up and died;—we say if the negro could have his wish, this is the sum of his desires. The negro is not a fool. He is conscious of the burdens of care on those who bear them, and by his own freedom from them; while the swine answers to his morning call, and the white grain corn is uncovered, as he shucks and sings. Not only is this true of the negro; but he is a good judge of human character. He soon finds out who is his best friend. He has long ago discovered that his condition was rapidly improving, before abolitionists began to meddle with his affairs; and he distrusts an abolitionist, and a yankee, while he confides in the Southern man. If similar promises were held out to him to-morrow, by us and the Yankees, nine hundred and ninety-nine negroes out of a thousand, will prefer to trust their own *home people.*

Fred. Douglas—a runaway negro, who left Maryland some years ago, and has been a pe of certain strong-minded abolition women of the North—made a speech the other day, in New York, which, we are bound to say, was a very sensible speech; and in the course of it he said—"I am of opinion that such is the confidence which the master can inspire over his slave, if Jeff. Davis goes about in earnest to raise a black army, making them suitable promises, they can be made very effective in the war for Southern independence. If Jeff. Davis will hold out to the blacks of the South their freedom—gurrantee their freedom—the possession of a piece of land—the negroes of the South will fight, and fight valiantly for this boon." We believe that this negro speaks truly the sentiment of his people; and we are satisfied that, if Congress and the States, had taken steps early last fall to have given Gen. Lee two hundred thousand negroes, we should scarce to day have had a Yankee foot print on Southern soil.

All to their conviction, say we. These are ours—they are honest. In the perils of this hour, a nation must be inventive, quick to discern, quick to reach, and quick to use its resources.

Both Houses of Congress have adopted a resolution "to appoint a committee of three to prepare to the people of the Confederate States, an address, assuring them of the unalterable determination of Congress to continue, with all its energy, the struggle for independence, and assuring them of its final triumph," &c. Well, what will this address, or the resolution, be worth? The whole value of the resolution is destroyed by the fact that it *passed unanimously.* This, alone, shows plainly that it means nothing. There were men who voted for it who are prepared to go back, by reconstruction, into the Yankee government to-morrow; and have as good as said so. Foote, himself, would have voted for the resolution—even before he started to Ocoquan.

Resolutions of Congress, declaring intentions to maintain the struggle, begin to grow insipid; they taste like weak gruel, without salt or sugar. They are emphatically *bosh.* If they were ever so long—long enough to make a ladder of folly to enable lunatics to climb from Richmond to the moon; they are *bosh.* What the nation wants to see are "*acts of Congress,*" not resolutions and addresses. The body has been in session near ninety days, at the most critical period of the nation's existence. It found the currency in a deep decline—sinking, day by day, into hopeless worthlessness. Has it arrested it, and restored the financial health? Where is its remedy? The aggressive pressure of the enemy has been approaching "vital parts." All the military strength of the nation ought long since to have been ascertained—drawn out—and by this time, ought to be ready to meet the pressure. Has the measure of relief been perfected? Is it even now being enforced.

The Confederacy is in its greatest danger from the destructive influences among our own people. Has ought been done to control and change these influences? Why, reconstruction is beginning to be as common talk now as irregular peace agitation was months ago. Can the country stand up under conflict within and war without? Are they ignorant of it at Richmond; or is Congress heedlessly indifferent? Will we be better able to repel the enemy after we shall have permitted his advance through these States, or prepare to meet him at the threshold, and oppose him—not with the "precious few" who have borne the brunt—but with the nation's strength? Will it be easier to lose and then restore the popular hope and confidence, or to keep and preserve them?

Let us see—and at once—"acts of Congress:"—a military bill, easrolling the material of the land; a bill surely to prevent desertion; to punish conspiracy and sedition; to prevent their commission, and, a bill, such as the Secretary of the Treasury gave the weight of his great financial ability in favor of—now three months ago—to save the national credit and currency—and the hopes of the people will revive; confidence will be enkindled; and success will add comfort to our hopes. But these cannot be delayed. While the doctors are consulting, the pulse of the patient may grow weaker, and he may die under their consultation. In God's mercy, give us *acts*, and spare us the *resolutions* and address!

THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH.—In the Federal House of Representatives on the 10th, in the dicussion of the proposed amendment for the abolition of slavery, Mr. Fernando Wood discussed at length the want of power and impolicy of amending the Constitution in the way proposed. He said he should, on a future occasion, speak upon the condition of the country, and attempt to elucidate the following propositions. First, a tribute to the intense spirit of nationality which prevades all classes at the North. Second, sympathy with the Northern people, and a review of his efforts in behalf of their prosperity and happines, and his struggles to prevent civil war and its consequent horrors. Third, a reiteration of his belief that the South cannot be conquered or be compelled to submit to a sectional Northern Government, and that even if reduced to a guerrilla warfare, which is not probable, they can hold the Southern country and render it valueless for at least half a century. Fourth, an expression of the Jeffersonian principles of the Democracy, which cannot be too often repeated to the people, that they may see how smoothly, how harmoniously the machinery of the grand fabric of the fathers would move on, if their teachings were not ignored and forgotten. Fifth, that the Democracy still behold in the proud banners of the Union the symbol, of peace, and still labor for a cessation of hostilities, determined, if possible, to rescue the sweet spirit of Union ere it perish amid the carnage and vengeance of civil war. Sixth, that if the Southern States will return to the Union, the Northern States or people will in turn recognize by Constitutional amendment the sovereignty and independence of the Southern States over all questions not expressly delegated to the General Government. Seventh, and that thereupon Northern and Southern people shall pledge themselves to a hearty support of measures, peaceable or forcible, for the acquisation of Canada, Mexico and Cuba, and the freedom of Ireland.

Go slowly to the entertainments of thy friends, but quickly to their misfortunes.

For the Confederate.

MESSRS. EDITORS: If there still remain a man, woman, or child, in this Confederacy, so wilfully blind to the *actions* as well as the declarations of the inhuman foe, who has for four years been doing all he can to crush and destroy us, as to cherish in his secret heart, the hope that *he* may be spared, in case we are overcome, let him or her read the following, as the expression of the feeling on the part of that grave and wealthy body, a body of the leading men of New York, who, heretofore, have been held in the highest respect by the "Chamber of Commerce of New York," and drive that hope from his heart at once, and learn that his only escape, from their tender mercies, is in the support of our armies and our success on the field of battle. If the diabolical hatred and malice, as shown in their house burnings, turning old men, women and children out of their houses in midwinter, without a morsel to eat, or wherewith to protect themselves from the cold; if their robberries of the persons and violations of weak women, the murder of unresisting men, women and children, be considered, by so respectable a body as the Chamber of Commerce of New York, as "milk and water treatment" now, what will that treatment be when they have us unable to resist or revenge, and wholly in their power, with all the hate and malice bearing fanatics, of the North, turned loose upon us? Let us not deceive ourselves thus. No! Not *one* of us will be allowed to escape their malice and rapacious greed, whether Union man or early secessionists, if he have *property* to attract Northern avarice.

RELIEF FOR SAVANNAH.

At a meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce, to consider the proposition to send relief to the "loyal" citizens of Savannah, a number of speeches were made. We have only room for the following:

Capt. Marshall here arose and said that with regard to coaxing these people back into the Union, he had despaired if it entirely.—My friend, Mr. Blunt, said he, has recently returned from Tennessee, and he says there is not a particle of Union sentiment existing there. I know there is scarcely any in Louisiana; and I have long despaired of anything, except through bayonets and bullets. This, I am satisfied, is the only way that this Union can ever be restored. They must come back by conquest. We have had enough of this milk and water business. We have seen, through the process of three or four years, that the only way to bring back the rebels is to whip them back. We have seen that there is no Union sentiment among them, and that they expect this kind of treatment and nothing else—that they expect never to come back into the Union, except through the medium of sharp steel and hot lead. Therefore, I do not believe in all this talk; there is nothing in it at all.

Gen. Walbridge called for a vote on his resolution. Before the vote was put, however,

General Watmore was in favor that nothing should go forth from the Committee in opposition to Captain Marshall's sentiments. In the action of the Committee the sentiment of New York, and indeed of the whole country, should be seen, to the effect that this rebellion is to be put down *by force of arms alone.* And, while the rebellion was under discussion, he would add that *England and France are recognizing the President of the United States as only the President of a portion of the nation and not of the whole.*

Before the meeting adjourned, Gen. Walbridge expressed himself of a similar opinion with Captain Marshall and Gen. Watmore.—He was in favor of putting down the rebels by force of arms, and attending to France and England afterward.

For the Confederate.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—You will see by the annexed extract from a letter from that good patriot, wise statesman, and practical man of sense, President James Madison, that your correspondent "H. K. B., a North Carolina Farmer," is fully supported by Mr. Madison in many of his views, as to our using our negroes to fill the ranks of our armies. Please publish the extract.

[Extract from a letter written by James Madison to Joseph Jones, member of Virginia Assembly, dated at Philadelphia, Nov. 28, 1780.]

"DEAR SIR—Yours of the eighteenth came yesterday. I am glad to find the Legislature persists in their resolution to recruit their line of army, for the war, though without deciding on the expediency of the mode under their consideration. Would it not be as well to liberate and make soldiers at once of the blacks, themselves, as to make them instruments for enlisting soldiers? It would certainly be more consonant to the principles of liberty, which ought never to be lost sight of in a contest for liberty; and with white officers, and a majority of white soldiers, no imaginable danger could be feared from themselves, as there certainly could be none from the effect of the example on those who should remain in bondage, experience having shown that a freedman immediately loses all attachment [to] and sympathy with his former fellow slaves."

Never too Old to Learn.

Socrates, at an extreme age, learned to play on musical instruments.

Cato at eighty years of age thought proper to learn the Greek language.

Plutarch when between seventy and eighty, commenced the study of Latin.

Bocacio was thirty-five years of age when he commenced his studies in polite literature, yet he became one of three masters of the Tuscan dialect, Dante, and Petrarch being the other two.

Sir Humphrey Spelman selected the sciences in his youth, but commenced studying of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian and lawyer.

Colbert, the famous French minister, at sixty years of age, returned to his Latin and law studies.

Lundovico at the great age one hundred and fifteen, wrote the memoirs of his own times. A singular exertion, noticed by Voltaire, who was himself one the most remarkable instances of the progressing of age in new studies.

Ogibly, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek till he was past the age of fifty.

Franklin did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached his fiftieth year.

Accorso, a great lawyer, being asked why he began the study of law so late, answered that indeed he began it late, but he could therefore master it the sooner.

Dryden, in his sixty-eighth year, commenced the translation of the Illiad and his most pleasing productions written in his old age.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Jan. 24, 1865.

Mr. Wright, from the committee on the judiciary, reported unfavorably bills to allow the making of certain contracts by soldiers wives: to prevent the collection of debts in specie, and to make the robbery of dwelling houses in the day-time a capital offence.

Mr. Leitch introduced a bill to allow citizens to consolidate their lands.

Mr. Bryson, a resolution as follows: "That the committee on propositions and grievances be instructed to enquire into the practicability of the supplying the families of soldiers in the field, or the families of those that have been killed in the field, and indigent families in the State with cotton yarn, or some material for the manufacturing of clothing, at cheaper rates than the present high marketable prices; and to report to this term of the Legislature by bill or otherwise."

Mr. Ellis, a resolution proposing a committee of enquiry as to how many railroad companies in the State have forfeited or violated their charters and in what way. Postponed till to morrow.

Mr. Hall, a resolution that the Senate go into secret session this evening at 7 p. m., and that the House be informed thereof.—Agreed to.

Mr. Ellis, a bill to prevent the collection of debts in specie.

Mr. Wright, a bill to amend section 119, chapter 34, Revised Code.

On motion of Mr. Courts, the resolution to go into secret session was reconsidered and the hour changed to 3 p. m.

The unfinished business of yesterday—resolutions protesting against emancipation for public service—being before the Senate,

Mr. Ellis said he had at all times been the friend and supporter of the administration. He was so now and would ever be, but as such friend he was unalterably opposed to placing arms in the hands of the slaves. So far from putting negroes in the army he would have every one there now kicked out and sent where they could produce something for the support of the country. In his opinion such a measure as using the negro as a soldier would be a giving up of the whole question of slavery. So far from doing this he would make slavery cause Grant's army to ground its arms, Sherman's to halt in its career, bring down the Lincoln government, and swell our ranks by accessions from Europe, and this could be done by giving each present or future soldier in our armies a bounty of one negro fellow. At the conclusion of Mr. Ellis' remarks,

Mr. Hall addressed the Senate at some length arguing strenuously in favor of the employment of the negro in the military service, and dwelling in particular on the benefits which would arise from the formation of an engineer corps out of this material. Ten *per cent.* too, of the places now occupied by able-bodied detailed men could be filled by slaves, he believed, and as to their employment as soldiers lessening the productiveness of the country he would say that thirty-five *per cent.* of the negroes never make a bushel of grain or a pound of meat. The Speaker then combatted the assertion the army would throw down their arms if associated with negroes and closed by declaring the time had come to make use of the slave—that the salvation of the country depended on its being done—and that even if they did run away from us we would have at least availed ourselves of a chance in our favor. It might succeed, and even its failure would leave us no worse off than a refusal to try its effect.

Mr. Wiggins said he had always endeavored to support the Government in every way and regretted now, that he should have to oppose the Presidents idea of purchasing 40,000 slaves as soldiers and stimulating them to good behavior by a promise of emancipation. It was unconstitutional, unnnecessary and he protested against it.

Mr. Patton said conscription was nothing but the impressment of the services of white men, and, *a fortiori*, if this could be done, he believed the Government had the right to impress the negroes without the consent of the States.

Pending a further consideration, the Senate adjourned to 3 p. m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Craven, of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Little presented a memorial from citizens of Richmond county praying the enactment of a law making land trespass a misdemeanor.

Mr. Fowle, from the Judiciary Committee, reported favorably on the claim of the Old Dominion Trading Company.

Mr. Love introduced a resolution of enquiry as to whether the Judgeship of the 8th Judicial District be not vacant, he not residing in said district.

A communication was received from the Secretary of State showing the number of Magistrates in the State, etc.

Mr. Brown moved it be printed. Not agreed to. Yeas 46, nays 52, and on motion of Mr. Fowle, the report was laid on the table. [This communication gives a list of the number of Magistrates in eighty eight counties of the State, who have qualified and whose resignations have not been accepted, amounting, in the aggregate, to 4036, or about 45 on an average to a county. Wake has 120, the highest number; Chowan 8, the least.]

A message was received from the Senate stating that body would, at 7 p. m., (afterwards changed to 8 p. m.,) go into secret session, and on motion the House adopted a like resolution.

The House then proceeded to vote for an Engrossing Clerk. No election.

Mr. Person introduced a bill to incorporate the trustees of the Hill Orphan Fund, which, under a suspension of the rules, passed its various readings.

On motion of Mr. Grissom a bill to exempt employees of newspapers from Home Guard duty was taken up, and, under a suspension of the rules, passed, the vote being upon its third reading yeas 57, nays 32.

Mr. McLean introduced a resolution to so amend the act authorizing the removal of the Salt Works from Wilmington to Saltville, or any other point, which passed its various readings, the rules being suspended for that purpose.

An election for Engrossing Clerk being held, Mr. Davis was duly elected to that office.

The bill to allow a Clerk to the Secretary of State was then taken up, but pending its consideration the House took a recess to 8 p. m.

At 8 p. m., the two Houses met in joint secret session in the Commons Hall. At 6 o'clock the Senate retired to its Chamber and went immediately into secret session, continuing there till after 7 o'clock.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, January 25th.

The Senate, immediately on meeting, went into secret session.

After coming out of secret session, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business—resolutions protesting against the policy of emancipation for public services, which, after being variously amended, passed their third reading.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Fowle presented a memorial from the Mayor and Commissioners of Raleigh, praying the passage of an act to exempt the municipal authorities from Home Guard duty, and a bill to that end, and moved a suspension of the rules to put the bill on its various readings. Not agreed to, yeas 32, nays 43.

A report as to the present condition, management, etc., of the Insane Asylum, was then read, and a message having been received from the Senate demanding consideration in secret session, the House, on motion, resolved itself therein at 11 a. m.

At the conclusion of the secret session, Mr. Ashworth introduced resolutions, stating the committal of certain outrages by the Home Guard, acting under alleged orders from His Excellency, the Governor, and appointing a special committee of five to investigate said matter, with power to send for persons and papers.

The bill authorizing the Secretary of State to employ a clerk was amended, on motion of Mr. Amis, so as to strike out a proviso requiring that the clerk be not within the conscript age, and so amended passed its third reading—ayes 47, nays 46.

The House shortly thereafter adjourned.

COMPANY A, 16th, N. C. BATTALION,
Belfield Va., Jan. 9 1865.

Messrs Editors:—I hope you will allow the following to be inserted in the columns of the *Confederate*, that it may meet the eyes of those who are guilty:

One year ago poor men, members of this company hired of slave owners, negroes at the enormous sum of from three to five hundred dollers to make something for their families to eat, and gave their notes with approved security, payable at the expiration of twelve months, and are now refused their notes by those heartless, exempted scoundrels, in exchange for the specified amounts. These same soldiers have nobly performed their duties living only on the slim rations issued by our Commissary, to save their scanty wages towards the payment of these notes.

Why can't our one horse Legislature do something to redress our grievances? Why not drive these heartless villans into the army, where they would learn to treat their fellows with justice and stop them from preying upon the necessities of the poor men in the army? Confederate money and negroes are on precisely the same footing; if one "goes up" so will the other; but I suppose these slave owners never thought of this.—We are willing to toil and fight on; aye, even risk our all upon our country's altar in defence of our homes and our liberties, but when such gross injustice is practiced upon us, our spirits rebel and we feel more like going home and cursing the gentlemen who treat us and our families unjustly, than standing up to protect them and their negroes from the enemy. L.

Wanted—A Traitor.

Our cotemporaries of the press have drawn numerous and very striking parrallels between the bitter struggle which we are now enduring, and the famous war of independence which our fathers fought so heroically and successfully. In many points the two contests bear a marvellous resemblance—there is running through the history of each revolution an analogy that is forcibly impressed upon every observer. We of the South are contending for the same great principles that our ancestors did—we are fighting at the same time against similar odds. In each case the foe is arrogant, supercillious, brutal any tyrannizing. The defenceless women and children suffered then as now. Rapine, devastation, plunder, crime of every hue marked the track of British legions as it does of Yankee cohorts. Would that the similtude could be extended, and that through the lowering clouds that now surround us, we could see the rainbow of peace which bent over the freed Colonies—that across the storm tossed sea we could descry the haven of safety and independence the revolutionary patriots found after their seven years buffetings.

But in one matter we are at a loss for a parallel. Here the analogy of the two cases fail. As yet we have no traitor in our midst—no betrayer of a great trust—no trafficker in the freedom of his country—no hawker of honor and reputation in the Yankee market places. Renegades and recreants we have, from the style of that miserable fellow, Brig. Gen. Gaunt, of Arkansas, down to that little whiffet of a pill vender, Dr. Arnold, Mayor of Savannah. But such men are the mere riff-raff of society—the scum thrown up on the surface of a boiling public—they are the vapors, frothy effervescences, who effect nothing, and will scarcely leave behind them a memory of their treason.

What this revolution is yet to produce is a traitor—some bright morning star like Lucifer—some man of position, who has been a trusted leader, and whose fall will echo along the corridors of time through generations yet unborn. This is what history demands—for the drama of the revolution would lack in unity and completeness without some such character—black from contrast with his former brightness—hideous by reason of his former beauty—should stride through the rapidly shifting scenes of war. The country demands it.

We want to see the backbone of the nation tested yet a little more. We want to see the constancy of the people still further tried. We are anxious that their faith should be put to this increased pressure. Such an event as the desertion of our cause by a prominent leader in this crisis would be a sore trial to many; but after a while the whole nation would breathe freer. They would feel as if the deadly incubus had been removed—the offending Jonah tossed over board.

By all means let this traitor come forth.—Now is the propitious time. He can never again find as opportune a season for the damnable work. These hours of gloom and danger comport well with his mission. Rome had a Cataline—the struggling American colonies a Benedict Arnold—the little assembly of Christ's Disciples a Judas Iscariot, and why not the Confederate States some dastard sons?

We pray God that the cup may pass from us in Georgia, and that no son of hers may attain that bad pre-eminence, but we must confess that we fear the revelation of the immediate future.—*Augusta Con.*

FOREIGNERS IN THE YANKEE ARMY.—In the Presidential election the entire vote in all Grant's vast army was but 18,000. All the rest were foreigners.

An Irishman was summoned for refusing to pay a doctor's bill, when he was asked why he refused to pay.

"What for should I pay?" said Paddy; "shure he didn't give me anything but some emities, and the niver a one could I keep in my stomach at all, at all."

TELEGRAPHIC

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—The Legislature of Virginia adopted resolutions on the 17th, declaring the appointment of Gen Lee to the command of all the armies of the Confederate States, would promote their efficiency and operate powerfully to reanimate the spirits of the armies as well as the people of the several States and inspire increased confidence in the final success of our cause. This resolution was communicated to the President, who, in reply, says Virginia cannot have a higher regard for Gen Lee or greater confidence in his character and ability than is entertained by him. He has always expressed his inability to assume command of other armies than those now confided to him, unless relieved of the immediate command in the field, of that now opposed to Grant. In conclusion, the President assures the General Assembly that whenever it shall be found practicable for Gen Lee to assume command of all the armies of the Confederate States without withdrawing him from the direct command of the Army of Northern Virginia, he will deem it promotive of public interest to place him in such command.

RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—Frank Blair is still here endeavoring to initiate negotiations for peace. Gen. Singleton started for Washington to-day, but the flag of truce boat was compelled to return.

From Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 22.—Two more Monitors have arrived, making ten now inside of the bar. The enemy reported building a Railroad from Port Royal ferry to Pocotaligo, and McPhersonsville. A Yankee transport with three guns came up the Edisto River to White Point, on John's Island, sounding the Channel, then proceeded up the Dahoo River. No other movements repoted. Very heavy rain falling.

The enemy have made no movement since our last report. The Railroad between Saltketchie bridge and Pocotaligo has been destroyed, the ties burnt, and the iron taken away. The enemy's pickets extend a short distance this side of Pocotaligo.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 23.—All quiet along the lines. The enemy have made no new movements. Our scouts report a considerable force of Yankees at Hardeeville.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—In the House Mr. Clark, from the Committee on Elections, protested against the report, after reviewing the circumstances of Mr. Foot's effort to leave the Confederacy, closing with the declaration that he has been guilty of conduct incompatible with the duty and his station as a member of the Congress of the Confederate States, and that he be, therefor, and is hereby expelled from this House.—Mr. Gilmer presented the majority report, justifying the arrest of Mr. Foote, and declaring that his conduct deserves the censure of the House.—The majority report was rejected for want of two thirds vote in favor of its adoption—yeas 51, nays 34. The minority report was then adopted, and after a short secret session, the House adjourned.

The Senate was in secret session on the currency bill.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—Northern papers 20th, received. Wall street was excited on the 19th by the report of Blair's return to Richmond, with a programme from Lincoln in favor of appointing Commissioners to meet at City Point. Every body who had anything to sell was selling at a sacrifice, in many cases, under the conviction that the war was about over. In a day or two, says the writer, they will probably have occasion to bemoan their credulity.

Gold opened on the 20th at 199½.

VALUABLE LANDS IN NASH AND 33 LIKELY SLAVES FOR SALE.

I offer for sale my plantation, situated in Nash county, about four miles west of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, containing 400 acres, with good improvements, and thirty-three likely Slaves. Any person wishing to purchase, will call and examine, or address me at Ashland, P. O., N. C. J. A. TAYLOR.

jan 20-d3t&tw3t

SCOTCH AND HIGH-TOAST SNUFF.

The "DIXIE LADY" Scotch Snuff, is manufactured by CLARK & MILLER, Graham, N. C.

This finely livigated Snuff is manufactured of the best materials, with a determination to make it the best dentrifice now offered to the public, great care being taken to have all the ingredients free from dirt or other impurities.

It is prepared under the immediate management and supervision of a careful person who has had much experience in the employ of the LOVILLARDS, in their Snuff Factory, in New York City.

The HIGH-TOAST is a Salt Snuff. Also, put up in packages of half pound each, in boxes of fifty pounds, the justly celebrated old "STONEWALL" Smoking Tobacco, and CIGARS of the finest quality that is put up in the Confederate States, by H. J. B. CLARK.

jan 18-d2taw6w

NORTH CAROLINA, } GRANVILLE COUNTY,
COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSION.

November Term 1864.

ELEZABETH BERKLEY,
vs.
James S. Lewis and Wife Amanda, Nancy S. Newlon and others.

Petition for Dower.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Court, that Henry W. Berkley, one of the defendants in this case, resides beyond the limits of this State; it is therefore, on motion, ordered by the Court, that advertisement be made for six weeks successively in the Confederate, a newspaper published in the city of Raleigh, notifying the said defendant, of the filing of this petition, and that unless he appears at the next term of this Court and answers the petition, the same will be taken pro confesso and heard exparte as to him.

Witness Augustine Landis, Clerk of said Court, at Oxford the first Monday of November, A. D. 1864. A. LANDIS, C. C. C.

dec 14, 1864. 38—6w.

$500 REWARD.

STRAYED OR STOLEN from the quarters of the A. Q. M., of Dearing's Cavalry Brigade, on the night of the 5th inst., a BLOOD-BAY HORSE, eight years old, about five feet, two inches high, very small star in forehead, white spot, from gald, on the back, and a hole, the size of a partridge egg, at the point of the right shoulder. The above reward will be given to any one who will return him to me, or give information that will lead to his recovery. J. L. PRIDGEN,
Co. F, 16th N. C. Battalion, (Cav.)
40-w2t* Hicksford, Va.

Petersburg Express copy twice.

A PRIVATE SCHOOL.

The FIFTH SESSION of MISS MANGUM'S SCHOOL for young Ladies, will begin on the 10th of February. Only a limited number of pupils can be received.

For further information, address Miss M. P. Mangum, Flat River Orange County N. C.

dec 28-w6w.